

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LV.]

HONGKONG, MONDAY, 24TH MARCH, 1902.

No. 12

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### BIRTHS.

On the 12th March, at 27, North Szechuen Road, Shanghai, the wife of E. M. VAN BERGEN, of a son.

On the 13th March, at Shanghai, the wife of J. L. REMUSAT, I.M. Customs, Chefoo, of a son.

On the 19th March, at Swatow, the wife of W. MORTON ANDREW, I.M. Customs, of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

On the 12th March, at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., CHARLES ROBERT, eldest son of the late C. C. BENNETT, of Shanghai, to MARY ELIZABETH, second daughter of the late J. M. ROGERSON.

On the 15th March, at the Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. George J. Williams, HERBERT AUGUSTUS COOPER, third son of the late WILLIAM COOPER, A.M.I.C.E., late Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co., Bombay, to ALICE FANNY, fourth daughter of Captain WILLIAM NEWELL, late P. & O. S. N. Co., Bombay.

On the 17th March, at St. Peter's Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. J. H. France, HELENE CLARE, fifth daughter of the late F. O. HANISCH, to ERNEST MANNING, youngest son of the late F. I. HAZELAND.

### DEATHS.

On the 9th March, at No. 19, Seward Road, Shanghai, GLADYS NORAH, youngest daughter of the late Capt. JAMES PRICE, aged 8 years and 10 months.

On the 10th March, at the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Bangkok, MARIAN KIMBERLEY, the wife of GEORGE BRUCE-WEBSTER, and infant son at birth.

On the 12th March, at Manila, HENRY ADAMS, of the North China Insurance Company, Limited.

On the 12th March, at Ningpo, MAUD, the dearly loved wife of W. H. WILKINSON, H.B.M. Consul.

On the 13th March, at 2, Kungping Road, Shanghai, JOHN ALEXANDER, the youngest son of Capt. and Mrs. PARAMORE, aged 1 year and 11 months.

On the 14th March, at his residence, Shameen, Canton, F. A. BRÜCKELMANN, aged 45 years. Deeply regretted.

### Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 15th February arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Malta*, on the 15th March (29 days); the American mail of the 15th February arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 16th March (29 days); the Canadian mail of the 24th February arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of China*, on the 18th March (22 days); the German mail of the 18th February arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Stuttgart*, on the 22nd March (32 days); and the French mail of the 21st February arrived, per M. M. steamer *Yerra*, on the 22nd March (29 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Vice-Admiral Maréchal has been appointed to the command of the French squadron in the Far East.

A representative contingent from Hongkong is to attend the Coronation, and the formation of that contingent is to be left to the Volunteer Corps.

The Dutch Government has introduced a Bill authorising the contract for a monthly subsidised steamship service between the Dutch East Indies, Hongkong, Yokohama, Kobe, and Amoy.

According to the *Straits Times*, the abducted Rajah of Patani was not taken to Bangkok, as some of his friends at first hoped he might be, but is held a prisoner in the neighbouring state of Singora.

A telegram from our Singapore correspondent on the 19th inst. said:—50 Volunteers and 50 of the Malay States Guides will attend King Edward's Coronation. They will be absent from the Straits Settlements for three months.

A Chinanfu despatch to Shanghai reports that Mr. Lenz, the German Consul at Chefoo, who went to Chinanfu some time ago, is still there negotiating with Governor Chang Jen-Chun for the establishment of a German Consulate in Chinanfu.

A Seoul despatch of 6th March says:—The pro-Russo-French Koreans are vigorously agitating against the increase of Anglo-Japanese influence, and the Russian Minister to Seoul is reported to be trying to drive Bok Saijun out of office. Those Korean officials who are understood to be in favour of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance remain inactive.

The *Universal Gazette* learns that owing to the complicated nature and numerous subjects discussed between Sir J. Mackay and Sheng Kungpao previous to the illness of the latter, the British Commissioner is disinclined to reopen negotiations with a new Commissioner, which would necessitate going over much of the old ground, whereby much time would be lost. Sir J. Mackay is therefore reported to have signified his intention to wait for the recovery of Sheng.

According to a Peking telegram to Japan, a traveller who has lately returned from Manchuria states that the Russian arrangement of her troops and her influence over the Chinese officials are striking to outsiders. It is reported that Russia is preparing to build a customs house about 100 Chinese miles on this side of the Siberian frontier. If Great Britain and Japan fail to assume a stronger attitude the restoration of actual authority in Manchuria to China will be almost impossible.

H. E. Senhor Conselheiro Horta e Costa and Lady Horta e Costa were among the passengers who left on the 19th inst. by the German mail steamer *Kiautschou*. His Excellency was also accompanied by his father-in-law, the retired General Silvano, and Mrs. Silvano and Lieut. Gusmão. It is expected that His Excellency will be away for about five months, returning in August next. Senhor Conselheiro Romano, the Portuguese Consul-General, Mr. J. J. Leiria and a large party of Portuguese officials and friends of the Governor went on board to see him off.

The Japanese House of Peers on the 7th inst. adopted a resolution declaring the illegality of the procedure of the House of Representatives in permitting the speech of a member of the Lower House who denounced the Imperially nominated life members of the Upper House as Ministerial tools and enemies of the people. According to the Tokyo correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News*, the growing hostility between the House of Peers and House of Representatives checks the progress towards Party Cabinets and renders difficult Marquis Ito's speedy return to power.

The reports which reach the Colony regarding the prevalence of cholera at Canton continue to be of a conflicting nature. No more deaths have occurred among the European residents, but according to latest advices the disease still has a considerable hold upon the native city. That the authorities there realise the seriousness of the situation is shown by the news that they have inaugurated a system of water supply somewhat on the same lines as have been adopted in Hongkong, the water being brought from up country. On all the steamers plying on the river special precautions are being taken to eliminate from the bills of fare all articles of diet in which choleraic dangers might lurk.

The latest news about the cholera is rather curious. The following is a copy of telegram received here from H.B.M.'s Consul in Manila, dated 17th March:—"Quarantine imposed for all Hongkong vessels to complete five days from date of departure.—Harford." The reason for this quarantine, it appeared, was the existence of cholera in Hongkong. On Saturday we received a telegram from our Manila correspondent announcing ten suspected cases of cholera and seven deaths therefrom in Manila within thirteen hours—from which it will be seen that Manila is in a far worse case than ourselves. Our correspondent adds that the Board of Health is closing all wells and cisterns, distributing distilled water free, and temporarily stopping communication with the provinces. The Manila Authorities are confident of checking the spread of cholera, the local sanitary conditions being the best since the American occupation of the town.



## CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PROVINCIALS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 22nd March.)

Recent events have served to emphasise the peculiar relations which at all times exist between the Government of the Chinese Emperor and his viceroys in the provinces. In the late troubles the salvation of the Empire was entirely due to the refusal of the provincials to obey the commands of the Court; practically according to European ideas of government they were in contumacy, if not actual rebellion, and yet from no source do we hear any complaint of their disobedience, nor any suggestion even that their conduct was otherwise than correct, or was inspired by any other feelings than those of loyalty to the state. A very similar course marked their financial relations to the central Government: all the while they continued sending the customary dues either to Peking or to the spot where the Court during its self-imposed exile was temporarily sojourning, and yet they did it in such a way that the Court was unable to use it for what was principally its intention, namely to continue its mad crusade against the elements of the higher civilisation which were pressing for an entrance. The same feature of the independence of the provincials of the central Court in matters financial is at all times even more marked, and their constant refusal to permit any interference with their methods of taxation or their apportionment of its incidence has at all periods been one of the best defined features of the very peculiar relations that exist between the two sections of the Empire. This independence has betimes constituted one of the staying sources of imperial power, while at others it has been an undoubted element of weakness, and has led more than once in the past-history of China to deep fissures, which eventually have broken up the state into small sections, each professing to enjoy all the attributes of imperial authority. These traditions are as old as the foundations of the Empire, and have all the sanction of antiquity, and though eventually in the best interests of the Empire itself it may become advisable, or even necessary, to modify them with the object of forming a strongly centralised state; the time when the very existence of the Empire is entirely due to the independent action of its provincials is hardly a fit moment for trying hazardous experiments. We have been led into this train of reasoning by the extraordinary project of the Commercial Advisers to the British Government of reviving the troubles incident to the internal circulation of goods through the action of the various provincial authorities. We do not intend in any measure to offer apologies for the methods employed by the provincials, but to point out the reason why the efforts of the British Government to ensure freedom of circulation under the sole authority of the treaties, made with Peking, have in the past been, and in the future still must be, unavailing. We do not either intend to express our concurrence in the relations which have hitherto existed between Emperor and provincials; nor do we hold that it is not advisable to exercise a considerable amount of external pressure to bring about in the interests of China such modifications as may bring her methods of government more up to date than the present antiquated machine: but those efforts must be made carefully and by degrees rather than by sudden jerks and interferences, which may end in bringing the whole fabric down about our ears in our attempt to render more effective the working of

some particular part. This is eminently the case with regard to the working of the internal fiscal burdens on foreign trade. If these arrangements for augmenting the revenues of the provinces by the levying of octroi duties on goods in transit applied only to the staples of foreign trade the task of making a satisfactory arrangement would be much simplified; but unfortunately they apply to the whole of the internal trade, and even the most ordinary commodities of daily life. They, moreover, vary widely in their incidence in the various provinces, being light or practically absent in the northern provinces, while in the south they are so oppressive as beyond a certain distance to render impossible the circulation of goods, and even in adjacent districts to act as a serious brake. There never has been any great or insurmountable difficulty in getting the central Government to consent—for a consideration—to their formal abolition, and promises have been freely bartered against practical and substantial increases of duty. It is, however, one thing, as we have found to our cost, to obtain a promise, and another to ensure its fulfilment; and we have certainly spared no pains to throw upon Peking all the obloquy attaching to its continual neglect of its engagements: yet by our own action in the affair we are not altogether guiltless of the failure. We have in fact forced the Emperor's Government into a false position, and that with a full knowledge of the circumstances. It has all through been perfectly well known to our negotiators, that the control of the central power over the provinces did not extend, nor ever had extended, to these details of internal taxation which constitutionally were left to the provincials to arrange subject to their obligations to send up the customary contributions to the capital. This right the Provinces steadily retain as a safeguard, which if once abandoned would leave them open to uncontrolled exactions. If then it were natural for Peking to seize the excuse of external pressure to extend its influence over the Provinces, it was equally incumbent on the provincials as guardians of the separate provinces to ignore these new fangled pretensions. This has been the real contest, which remains as intense as ever. With regard to articles of foreign trade in some, at least, of the provinces, a *modus vivendi* has been found which, without committing either party, has on the whole worked fairly well, and as it seems to offer a way out of a difficulty involving the entire system of government may well offer a suggestion for some practical scheme which may for the present at least help to tide over the difficulty. The difficulty has been rather in the method than in the incidence of the taxation; in other words while the provincials were quite willing to compound on terms which would permit the circulation of the staples of trade through their provinces at rates corresponding to the half duties fixed by Tariff, they refused to acknowledge the Transit Passes issued in defiance, as it seemed to them, of their undoubted rights of control over the provincial finances, and practically this is the system that prevails through the Yangtze provinces. One of the results of this has been that the number of transit passes issued, and the amount collected by their means, so far from showing a tendency to increase actually shows a diminution. On the other hand the British Government, too late awaking to the damage done to British trade through its inertness, has of recent years insisted on every instance of exaction brought to its notice being righted. No one better knows

than the Chinese merchant the method of greasing the wheels of his conveyance, and the fact that in so few instances is the machinery provided put into action seems to point out that some compromise whereby the friction has been lessened has been found out. That this is the case becomes fairly evident when the prices at which foreign imports are retailed in comparatively insignificant places in the interior come to be examined. Now all this is doubtless very unsatisfactory, and the uncertainty of the opportunity to compromise adds increases almost as much as the exaction itself to the burden on trade, but the explanation is of course that the natural instinct of the collector teaches that some money is better than none, and that sooner than forego the entire he will take what it is possible to collect. All these experiences tend, however, in the one direction; and that is that, whereas under the present conditions of government in China it will be in the near future, as in the past, utterly beyond the power of Peking to enforce its own fiscal arrangements on the provinces, it is quite possible to treat with the powers that be, with the object of some practical alleviation of present disabilities. Practically we have been compelled to treat on almost equal terms with the Yangtze Viceroys regarding the internal affairs of their provinces. The viceroys have shown their ability, and, what is of still more importance, their good faith, and in this offered a very pleasing contrast to the shifting and equivocating conduct of Peking. Eventually, whatever nominal arrangement we may make with Peking, the incident of the taxation must be settled with the representatives of the real payers—the various provincial governments—and it would certainly be shorter, and probably more dignified, to treat in the beginning with the parties most immediately concerned. We do not say that in the future, even near at hand, some such scheme may be possible, even through the agency of the Imperial Maritime Customs, but that time has not yet arrived and the readiest way to hasten its arrival is to find out some way of attaining the co-operation of the great Provincial Administrations.

## THE FIRST CHINESE REGIMENT.

(Daily Press, 17th March.)

It will be seen from telegrams appearing in another column from Ceylon sources that the home Government will ask for the usual vote this year for the First Chinese Regiment at Weihaiwei. It was previously announced that it had been decided either to disband it or to withdraw it—that is, presumably, bring it down to Hongkong. Mr. St. John Brodrick's answer to a question in the House of Commons on the 27th February seems to show that the Government has reconsidered its decision and that the Regiment will be maintained, in some form, for at least another year. According to the Weihaiwei correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*, who gives as his authority the local *Gazette*, the force is to be reduced gradually from its present strength of 1,300. The same correspondent wrote, at the time when he announced this:—"It would be interesting to know whether, when reduced, it is to be under the War Office or paid and controlled by the Colonial Office through the newly appointed Commissioner." The last number to hand of the *London and China Express* advises, in an article written of course before Mr. Brodrick's statement, that the Regiment should at least be turned into a military police force for use at Weihaiwei. This



advice might with advantage be followed. We have written on several occasions, urging the unwisdom of the employment of Chinese as soldiers under the British flag. But, as has been seen at Hongkong, the Chinese policemen, if not the best instrument for the maintenance of law and order, can at least be rendered serviceable in conjunction with police of other nationalities. The discipline and training which have been inculcated in the Weihaiwei Regiment will not have been thrown away if the men can be converted into the suggested police. Such a force will at least form a good nucleus for the policing of the Colony, which will be one of the duties which will engage the attention of our departing Colonial Secretary, the Hon. J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART, when he reaches his post at Weihaiwei; and from the Earl of ONSLOW's statement in the House of Lords on the 10th ult. it will be seen that the administration of Weihaiwei will in future be undertaken by police.

### POLICE AND CRIME IN HONGKONG IN 1901.

(Daily Press, 18th March.)

MR. F. J. BADELEY's Report on the Police and on Crime for the year 1901, with its numerous classified returns, is a document worthy of close study. Table D, a decennial return, with its full analyses of prisoners arrested, convicted, and discharged, for both serious and minor offences, together with the averages and summaries under each head for the two quinquennial periods involved, is about as instructive as tabulated figures can be, and furnishes the reader with a criminological barometer wherefrom he may easily read the varying fluctuations of crime for the past ten years. The total of all cases reported to the Police, in the year under notice, shows a decrease of 7.1 per cent. below that of 1900. This result, in some measure, is due to the more thorough policing of the New Territory. Thanks are also here due to the Provincial authorities of Kwangtung who for the latter half of the year kept a military force stationed along our northern boundary, thereby very materially aiding in the repression of crime in the adjoining New Territory. The most unsatisfactory feature of the murder cases recorded was the inability of the local authorities to effect the arrest of the murderer of YEUNG KU-WAN, the Gage Street teacher and member of the Chinese Reform party. Forty-four gang robberies were reported; twenty-three in the New Territory, and in no less than thirty of them, no arrest was made. This does not redound to the credit of the Detective Department. Among serious crimes, Piracy shows a notable decrease. It will be remembered that the frequency and daring of the organised robbing of river launches, by men disguised as passengers, during 1900, led to the introduction of special legislation to provide against such surprises. Mr. BADELEY draws attention to the fact that the measures adopted were singularly successful. Gambling, though less serious than in 1900, is still disagreeably prominent in our midst. Eighty-one gambling dens were successfully raided and broken up. Heavier fines are now being inflicted on convicted keepers of such houses, and it is hoped this will act as a wholesome deterrent. Mendicants to the number of 155 were summarily deported to Canton, one persistent individual having been thus dealt with no fewer than five times. Strange to say, the worst offenders under this head are to be found, at certain times of the day, within a stone's throw of the Central Police Station—Upper Arbuthnot Road, Glenealy Nullah, and that part of

Caine Road stretching from the lower end of Castle Road to the Roman Catholic Cathedral, being their favourite haunts. The licences issued for jinrickshas, private vehicles, public chairs, gharries, and to drivers, drawers, and bearers, number 14,362: which surely constitutes a record. No statement is made of the large sum thereby brought into the Treasury. Licences issued under the Dogs' Ordinance brought in an income of close on \$4,000. The twenty-four Hill District chairs are all stationed at Victoria Gap. Could it not be arranged that six of them are available for the Plantation Road Tram station? The number of people who leave the cars at this station for Plantation Gap, Red Hill, Barker Road, and Magazine Gap, is now much in excess of what it used to be. Suitable coolie-quarters could easily be built on the hillside, to the west of the station somewhat, where the Peak Road makes a sudden bend away from the line. The practical incorporation of that highly useful body, the District Watchmen, with the Police Force, has worked satisfactorily and smoothly, and speaks volumes for the tact and good sense of the European Inspectors and Sergeants concerned. The conduct of the three contingents, European, Indian, and Chinese, shows commendable improvement, which is a peculiarly gratifying feature. There is, however, still room for further improvement in this direction. The total strength is 920 men, nine less than in 1900. This includes the Police specially paid for by other Government Departments and by private firms, as well as the Engineers, Coxswains and Stokers of the Water Police launches. If the Executive Staff, clerical staff and coolies be included, the grand total comes to 999. During 1901, an additional Assistant Superintendent was added to the Executive Staff. Mr. P. P. J. WODEHOUSE, transferred from the Registrar-General's Department, was appointed to the newly-created post, and proceeded straightway to Lahore, for the study of Hindustani and Indian Police methods. We imagine there can be little doubt about the extreme wisdom of such a course; because no matter how trustworthy the Jemadar of the Indian Contingent may be, it must be infinitely more satisfactory to have his actions controlled by a European executive officer with a competent knowledge of Hindustani. The results of this interesting experiment—the suggestion, we believe, of the Hon. F. H. MAY—will be watched with the keenest interest.

### HONGKONG AND QUARANTINE.

(Daily Press, 19th March.)

Hongkong has had to suffer in the past many severe blows (if only of a temporary character) dealt by neighbouring ports on account of scares as to the public health of the Colony. This year we have already been quarantined by the Netherlands Indies and Shanghai because of the plague, and now Manila has declared quarantine against us—on what particular ground it is not specified, but it may be suspected that it is for the supposed prevalence of cholera here, since the period to be enforced is of five days only. Now it is unnecessary to point out that plague is not epidemic in the Colony, that in fact only three cases (all Asiatic) have occurred during the year, so far as it has gone. With regard to cholera we lack all information with regard to the exact origin of the four Japanese cases, while as for the Chinese it is at present equally in doubt as to whence the infection came. Cholera was at first reported to be rampant at Canton, but this was afterwards denounced as an exaggeration, and judging

from information received from residents in the native City it is absolutely incorrect to say that there is any unusual illness this year in Canton. Two cases, however, have occurred of Europeans going up to Canton from Hongkong one day and dying in Shameen the next. Owing to the celerity with which cholera attacks its victims it is difficult to impute for certain the blame for the deaths of Lieutenant-Commander BAIRD and Mr. F. A. BROCKELMANN. Beside the three scattered cases of plague and the mysteriously originating appearance of cholera, there is also undoubtedly a certain amount of small-pox in Hongkong, but not enough to cause in itself an embargo against the Colony. The co-existence, in however slight forms, of the three diseases has sufficed to alarm most of our important neighbours against us, and we find ourselves thus early in the year an out-cast port. We have had occasion at various times in the past to complain of the precipitation shown by our neighbours in declaring quarantine against us in circumstances when we should certainly not do the like. The reason for this unjust discrimination of course lies in the evil name which we have gained, mainly through the recurring plague epidemics. It seems that the only way of getting rid of this handicap against us is by making every exertion to check at the start any further epidemic and gradually to live down our ill-repute. The process is both costly and long, but the result is sufficiently compensatory.

### THE VOLUNTEERS AND THE CORONATION.

(Daily Press, 20th March.)

On the 11th instant the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD asked at the Legislative Council meeting a question standing in his name with regard to the attendance of members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps at the Coronation of King EDWARD VII. No instructions had then been received from home, the Colonial Secretary answered, but a communication had been addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies enquiring when such instructions might be expected. As we announced on Monday, the reply to this enquiry has come back stating that these instructions will be forwarded "in due course." No further communication has been received in Hongkong up to the time at which this was written. In the meanwhile it will be seen from the telegram from our Singapore correspondent that it had been decided to send fifty of the Singapore Volunteers and a like number of the Malay States Guides to attend the Coronation on behalf of the Straits Settlements. Whether this action is subsequent or not to an invitation of the home authorities, we cannot say, but in view of the fact that no such communication has been addressed to Hongkong we may consider it probable that the measure was one of preparation rather than of final decision. A meeting was held at the Volunteer Headquarters in Hongkong yesterday evening for the purpose of discovering how many of the local Volunteer Corps would be able to attend the Coronation ceremony in London, should a contingent representative of Hongkong be decided upon. The result of the proceedings at this meeting it is considered by the authorities inadvisable at the present juncture to make public, as publicity would probably frustrate the end in view. It is, however, to be hoped that Hongkong, like Singapore and the Colonies generally, will not fail to be represented by a body of its Volunteers at the Coronation ceremony.



## NEW DUTCH STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

(Daily Press, 21st March.)

The announcement that the Dutch Government is contemplating monthly steamship service between the Netherlands Indies, Hongkong, Amoy, and Japan, will be received with satisfaction in the Far East. The addition of a new line of steamers for intercommunication between the various ports in this part of the world must always be a source of gratification both to merchants and to the ordinary traveller. Communication between the Dutch East Indies and this and northern ports in the past has not been of a character to foster the growth of trade, and the contemplated line will certainly fill a want. The financial question has doubtless been amply considered by the Dutch Government. It may well be that the new steamship service will not prove an immediate success, but we do not believe that with the opening of China, which must follow the conclusion of the present commercial negotiations at Shanghai, the traders of the Netherlands Indies will find it impossible to take good advantage of the new state of affairs. The Dutch Government, it would rather seem, has shown itself provident; and at the same time the rest of the world will be benefited by the increased facilities of intercommunication created by the proposed line of steamers.

## HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 20th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General (Vice-President); Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. F. J. Badeley, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police; and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

### BATS IN SHIPS.

In relation to the apparatus devised for the pumping of SO<sub>2</sub> gas into the holds of ships for the destruction of rats, the following letter of the 24th ult. was submitted from Mr. R. C. Wilcox, the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce:—"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd ult., enclosing copy of a letter from the Clayton Fire Extinguishing and Ventilating Co., Ltd., addressed to the Crown Agents, with whom the Government has recently been in communication with regard to an apparatus devised for pumping SO<sub>2</sub> gas into the holds of ships for the destruction of rats, it having been suggested that the use of such an apparatus on ships visiting Hongkong from plague infected ports might be useful in preventing rats from swimming ashore; and requesting the committee to give the proposal their consideration. The letter and enclosures have been placed before my committee, who have carefully considered the matter, and I am directed to state, in reply, that they do not see how, under the circumstances, the apparatus could be usefully employed here, at least as far as ships are concerned. In the first place, the use of this apparatus would inevitably involve detention of steamers, and consequent heavy expenses, and, in the second place, it would be impracticable, because in most cases vessels calling here have large quantities of cargo on board for ports beyond this. There would be few ships on which it would be used without greatly interfering with trade."

Mr. E. Osborne minuted:—"We must not allow the matter to be set aside, merely because there are a few difficulties in the way."

Lt.-Colonel Hughes minuted:—"I agree with Mr. Osborne."

Mr. E. OSBORNE—I read through those papers, sir, with some interest, but at the same time the opinions I have been able to form are somewhat vague as to the adequacy of the remedy and as to its real utility. I do not think, simply because the Chamber of Commerce says there are difficulties in the way,

that we should allow a matter which has been brought to our notice by the Home Government to be dropped. Of course, there will be difficulties in the way of all sanitary reform. And I think that we should, if necessary, go further into the question, more especially in regard to the disinfection of ships' holds where they make this their terminal port, that is to say, after all the cargo is out and the passengers have left. And also, I think, we might very usefully ask Bombay to do the same there with the ships that ply between Bombay and this port. There are not very many of them. Bombay is, in regard to most of those ships, the first port of departure, and therefore it would be a very simple matter for them to rid the ships of the rats before they leave. Furthermore, the cargoes that come from Bombay are mainly yarn—a cargo which lends itself to the secretion of rats in the holds of ships, and therefore possibly these rats may be landed here; and I think undoubtedly they came from Bombay in the case of the *Bullaarat*. Therefore, if Bombay would rid the ships of rats there and we took the same steps here and also took the same steps in regard to ships after they have finished discharging their cargo, we would do a great deal of good. I beg, therefore, to move that the Government be asked to provide the necessary apparatus, and afterwards, if we find that it is no use for the ships, I think it would be very usefully employed in our own drains.

The PRESIDENT—Before I say anything on the proposition I would point out that the two classes of vessels which the memorandum of the Medical Officer and the Local Government Board recommend should be treated with SO<sub>2</sub> gas are—(1) those ships arriving here with plague on board or on which plague has occurred; and (2) those ships that have come from places infected with plague. I would add that it be used on ships which use this as a terminal point.

Hon. Mr. CHATHAM—I do not quite understand the remarks Mr. Osborne has made with regard to the use of this apparatus. He said in the course of his remarks that yarn was a very favourable type of cargo for harbouring rats, and he also said that this apparatus could be used for destroying rats in those ships after the cargo had been discharged. I presume, if the cargo is favourable for harbouring rats, the thing would be to use this apparatus before the cargo was discharged, not after that. I may be wrong, but it seems to me that the rats would be brought ashore with the cargo in such cases.

Hon. Mr. BREWIN—What is the cost of this apparatus?

The PRESIDENT—£800.

Mr. OSBORNE—What I intended was that a ship should be rid of rats at Bombay and this port—first of all, before the cargo is put in, and then after the cargo is put out here. I say after the cargo is put out here, because I doubt very much as to the efficacy of this contrivance when a ship is full of cargo. When a ship is empty it is much more likely that the gas will have a wholesale effect upon the rats, but not with the cargo in the ship.

The PRESIDENT—I am afraid if it is employed in a ship after she is empty the rats would all escape. I know in ports at which it has been used it is put in while the cargo is still in the hold. Then the cargo is taken out and the rats are found dead after its removal. I think that is the principal reason why this should be used mainly on ships which use this as a terminal port. After the cargo is taken out you get the rats.

Mr. OSBORNE—That is a matter of detail. It does not affect the principle.

Hon. Mr. BREWIN—With your permission, Sir, I will read the resolution of the Government of India upon the question of the danger of infection being spread by rats on ships. The Commission say that although theoretically it is possible that plague-infected rats might carry the disease from one country to another, there is no evidence that infection has ever been carried in this manner. They think that the suggested fumigation of the holds of ships so as to destroy rats in both unnecessary and impracticable.

The PRESIDENT seconded Mr. Osborne's motion.

On a division there voted for the motion—the President, Dr. Clark and Mr. Osborne; against—Mr. Brewin, Mr. Chatham, and Mr.

Badeley. The motion was carried by the casting vote of the President.

### CHOLERA IN CANTON.

The SECRETARY submitted further correspondence relative to the outbreak of cholera in Canton.

The PRESIDENT—I may state that I have been in communication with Dr. Ringer concerning this presumed outbreak of cholera at Canton, and he informs me that there has been no fresh case since Friday last amongst Europeans and that the disease appears to be confined to Honam, as far as he can understand.

### PLAGUE MATSHED AT YAUMATI.

The SECRETARY laid on the table an application by the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., for permission for a private plague hospital matshed, and also a matshed for attendants—both of them to be erected close to the Yaumati Plague Hospital and to be under the supervision of an European doctor.

In connection with this application there was submitted a minute by the Medical Officer of Health on a previous similar application, in which he stated that he had no objection to raise to the principle, but the site must be most carefully selected and the sanitary arrangements of the hospital must be under the care and authority of a duly registered medical practitioner approved by the Board; the hospital should also be subject to the Board's approval.

The PRESIDENT—I move that this application be granted under the same conditions as were imposed in the previous instance.

Dr. CLARK seconded.

Hon. W. CHATHAM—There is only one small matter in connection with this application, and it is that the land on which the hospital stands is not Crown land but is privately owned, and it will be necessary for the Godown Co. to make an arrangement to get permission to erect their hospital there. The Government actually pays rent for the use of the site on which the hospital stands at present.

The motion was agreed to.

### PREVENTION OF DISEASE.

Dr. CLARK, in pursuance of notice, moved:—"That the Board delegate to a Select Committee, consisting of the President, the Vice-President, and the Medical Officer of Health, full powers to enforce all the provisions of the 'bye-laws for the prevention or mitigation of epidemic, endemic, or contagious disease' made under section 13 of the Public Health Ordinance of 1901." He said—This is purely to avoid the necessity of calling a meeting of the Board every time a case of plague occurs. The Board are aware that certain action has been taken this year by virtue of bye-laws giving the Board further powers, and under the Public Health Ordinance the Board have power to delegate their full powers for certain purposes to a committee. I think the Board will agree that at the hands of the President, the Vice-President and myself every care will be taken not to inflict hardship on the public and at the same time to protect the health of the community.

Hon. W. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

### DISINFECTING OPERATIONS.

Dr. CLARK, in terms of notice, moved:—"That the Board define that portion of the City of Victoria between the Conduit and Robinson Roads as local limits within which officers of the Board shall make a house-to-house visitation for the purpose of cleansing and disinfecting the premises contained therein in accordance with Bye-law No. 1 of the Bye-laws for the prevention or mitigation of epidemic, endemic or contagious disease, made under section 13 of the Public Health Ordinance No. 13 of 1901." He said—This is simply an extension of the district in which we are presently doing the house-to-house cleansing and disinfection. In regard to these houses, we are practically only dealing with the Chinese servants' quarters and not with the European dwellings, unless of course they are in an insanitary condition.

Hon. W. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

### CLEANSING GANGS.

The report of the work of the cleansing gangs during the fortnight ended 8th March showed that the number of houses dealt with was, 120; the number of floors fumigated was,



2,616, while the number of floors cleaned was 4,031.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics showed that for the week ended 22nd February the death-rate was 14.8 per 1,000 of the population per annum, as compared with 13.0 in the previous week and 23.6 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

#### LIME-WASHING.

A return was submitted showing that the number of houses lime-washed during the fortnight ended 15th March was 1,944 in the Eastern and 87 in the Central District.

#### URINAL IN ICE HOUSE ROAD.

The SECRETARY laid on the table the following letter from Mr. W. A. Rublee, Consul General for the U.S.A.:—"I have the honour to enquire if the erection of a public urinal in Ice House Road directly opposite the building in which the offices of this Consulate-General are located has been definitely decided upon. I am interested so far as my office is concerned, because I should be compelled to seek another location. Ice House Road is a narrow thoroughfare, and a urinal in the place proposed would create an intolerable stench besides making the access to my office extremely unpleasant. I cannot expect that the local authorities will take my interests into consideration in locating public urinals, but I beg to state the fact that it will make my present office, into which I have recently moved, untenable, and that it will be a hardship to seek other offices since I have signed a lease for the present rooms."

Hon. W. CHATHAM—With regard to that matter, Sir, I may explain that after a lengthened period and much trouble, a contract had been entered into for the construction of the place of public convenience referred to by the American Consul in his letter. The intention for providing this urinal was to permit of the removal of the one which has for so long formed a source of public annoyance and complaint in Battery Path. I do not know of any place myself where it can be otherwise arranged and therefore—it may cause the American Consul inconvenience, and I am sorry that it should be so—I think the only thing is to adhere to the proposal and go on with the erection of this place. Otherwise, of course, it will be necessary to find a site somewhere else, which would be attended with the same difficulty in the case of some other member of the public, and the Government will have to sacrifice a considerable sum of money in getting rid of the contract into which they have entered.

Dr. CLARK—I think we might reassure Mr. Rublee that the Board have every reason to believe that the offence will not be so great as he anticipates. Offensiveness or otherwise of an urinal depends entirely upon its construction. Plans have been submitted to render this urinal inoffensive. It will not be such a structure as now exists in Battery Path. There will be room to turn round, and there will be room for an attendant to be constantly there; and unless we unfortunately have another severe drought there in every reason to believe that the urinal will be inoffensive. I think that might reassure him to some extent.

It was agreed to reply to the Consul's letter in the terms indicated.

#### RATS DESTROYED.

A return was laid on the table showing that the number of rats destroyed during the week ended 10th March was 2,930 in Victoria and 1,332 in Kowloon, as compared with 2,583 and 1,777 respectively in the previous week.

#### HONGKONG CLUB APPLICATION.

The committee of the Hongkong Club asked permission to erect six water-closets and an urinal at the annexe to the Club Lot No. 1,536 Reclamation. The capacity of the storage cistern for supplying water to the closets was 800 gallons.

The Sanitary Surveyor, Mr. J. J. Bryan, reported that the only objection he knew of, to allowing these W.C.'s to be fixed, was the one of water supply. A slight saving could be made by fixing an one-gallon flushing tank to the urinal instead of a two-gallon. The probable quantity of water required then would be about 300 gallons a day. Could this extra amount be spared, or could it be obtained by sinking a well?

Dr. CLARK—In this case, as in former cases, I recommend the Board to require the committee to provide their own well and pump the water to a tank at the top of the building in order to supply all these closets, the well to be not less than 10 feet deep. With that stipulation, I move that the application be granted.

The PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

#### PROVISION OF A BACKYARD.

An application was submitted relative to the provision of a backyard for the house to be erected on Inland Lot No. 247B.

The Medical Officer of Health minuted:—"The kitchen should not extend across more than half of the width of the building. The floor of the houses in Lascar Row frontages may not be occupied without a special permission of the Board, which will be granted for such numbers of persons as the Board may see fit to allow, after the building has been completed. On these conditions I am prepared to recommend the exemption."

Dr. CLARK—This house extends through from Upper to Lower Lascar Row. There is a main street at the back and at the front, and the architects therefore ask for an exemption from providing a backyard. I have to recommend that the exemption be granted provided that the kitchen does not extend over more than half of the building. At present on the plans it extends over about two-thirds.

After an examination of the plans had been made, Dr. Clark's recommendation was adopted.

#### SHANGHAI DECLARED INFECTED.

Mr. Osborne—If I am in order, I beg to move that the Government be asked to apply medical inspection to vessels arriving from Shanghai. I think that is a desirable step, having in view the large amount of scarlet fever and other infectious complaints that are now troubling the Shanghai people.

The PRESIDENT—It is necessary for the Board to declare Shanghai infected if medical inspection is to be imposed.

Mr. OSBORNE—That is my motion, sir.

Hon. A. W. BREWSTER—Have we any official information on this matter?

Dr. CLARK—We have the death returns. I beg to second the motion.

The motion was carried.

This was all the public business.

### GUNNERY IN THE CHINA SQUADRON.

A novel form of competition has lately been introduced by Flag-Captain Carter among the British squadron in harbour, in the shape of gun-loading competitions between trained gun crews of different ships. On the 14th inst. one of these competitive performances took place on board the *Glory*, when two teams—or properly speaking, two gun crews—from the *Terrible* were invited to try their skill against the flagship's crews. This new drill, which by the way may be said to arouse as much excitement among the onlookers as do sporting contests, besides tending to promote efficiency in rapid loading of guns, is also a healthy physical exercise, thereby benefitting both the service and the individual. A dummy gun, fitted with a spare breech-block, has been constructed in each ship by order of Admiral Bridge, and although the same movements are employed as are performed when in action, real projectiles are used in the drill, but a wooden drill-cartridge—of the same weight as a proper one—takes the place of the cylinder of cordite.

The result of the competition, which took place in the presence of Flag-Captain Carter and many other officers, proved that gunnery is not a monopoly of any one ship, for although the *Terribles*, who have now for two years been training at this particular drill, produced her best crews, one beat the *Glory's* crews by two seconds only, while the flagship won by one second on the whole performance, each team having three tries. In each contest—or trial—twenty 100lb projectiles are passed through the breech, the drill cartridge having to be entered and withdrawn and the breech itself opened and closed each round; this number of rounds is thus supposed to have been fired by each competing team on each try. The best time in doing this was 1 minute 19.1/5th seconds by the

*Terribles* (one gun's crew), 1 minute 21.1/5 seconds being the *Glory's* smartest time; and when it is remembered that twenty rounds thrown into the gun represent a weight of about 18 cwt., this task is not so simple as it may appear.

### THE KIDNAPPED RAJAH OF PATANI.

We take the following from the *Straits Times* of the 12th inst.:—

His Highness the Rajah of Patani, a friendly and a neighbouring potentate, who was but recently in Singapore, was kidnapped by a Siamese official on the night of February 20th. He was taken away in a Siamese gunboat and is now a prisoner. This occurred at Patani. He was lured to the house of a Siamese official, where he was asked to sign and subscribe to a treaty whereby he was to practically abjure the right of governing his own State. On refusing, he was surrounded by a company of about thirty soldiers from the gunboat, who took him away with only three attendants. His Highness was not allowed to send for either his wife or his cash. He was denied the privilege of even taking sleeping clothes.

Messengers have arrived in this town, appealing for aid, and they describe the indignation of the Malays of Patani as frantic. It is stated that serious trouble is to be feared from this act, and that the trouble will extend to the State of Kelantan.

The rulers of Kelantan and Patani are near relatives, and apart from that fact they are very friendly, and affectionately disposed towards each other. The abduction occurred on the night of 20th February, when His Majesty the King of Siam was actually on his way to Singapore, and forty-eight hours before his arrival here.

Phya Sri Sahadi is the name of the official who kidnapped His Highness. He was an Under Secretary of sorts in the Siamese Government, but one of our Patani informants describes him as Vice-Minister for the Interior. As the incident happened late at night there were comparatively few Malays present, and these were driven back by Phya Sri's soldiers when they tried to assist their ruler.

Grave apprehensions exist that an attempt will be made to make Rajah Pitak the Rajah of Patani. In fact he has been appointed Rajah *pro tem.* by Phya Sri. Such action it is stated will cause intolerable trouble on our border.

The delay in the arrival of the news was caused by the refusal of the telegraph operators in Kelantan and elsewhere to despatch to Singapore any messages concerning the event. It was the Siamese Government telegraphs that refused the despatch, and the operator informed the messenger that he had been ordered to refuse to despatch any message concerning the abduction of the Rajah of Patani.

The messengers are now in Singapore.

### SUICIDE IN WYNDHAM STREET.

At a late hour on the 20th inst. revolver-shots were heard outside Pelham House, Wyndham Street, and on one or two of the residents running out they found a young man lying near the side channel, with blood flowing from a wound in the right temple. By his side was a six-chambered revolver, a cheap-looking weapon, two of the chambers of which had been discharged. One of the Europeans on the scene picked up the revolver and foolishly fired it into the roadway twice in succession—"to see if there was anything left in it," he told the police afterwards. The unconscious man was carried into Pelham House, where it was discovered that he resided there. His name was Theodore Weiker, his age 22 years, and he was employed as a clerk at the North German Lloyd shipping office. The police were communicated with, and Weiker was removed to the Government Civil Hospital, where he died on Friday morning. The bullet had entered just below the right temple and traversed the frontal bone. Mr. Weiker's case was pronounced hopeless from the start, and he died without regaining consciousness. Before shooting himself it has been ascertained that he discharged one cartridge, presumably to see if the



revolver was in working order. No cause has as yet been learnt that could have prompted the deceased to take such an extreme step.

From enquiries we learn that the deceased was playing billiards in Thomas's Grill Rooms till about ten o'clock. He complained to his friends of feeling "queer," and added that "it did not matter—he was going to end it all." Mr. Weiker then pulled a revolver out of his jacket-pocket and showed it to those with him, remarking that it was loaded. After bidding good-bye to all he left the hotel, and at this point one cannot help remarking the extreme thoughtlessness of the unfortunate man's companions, for apparently they allowed him to depart without an effort to turn him from his purpose, without, indeed, doing anything to avert the tragedy which followed so quickly. Reaching Pelham House, Mr. Weiker saw his landlady, Mrs. Moore, and bade her also good-bye, after which he went upstairs to see another of his friends. On coming downstairs Mr. Weiker again spoke to Mrs. Moore, who drew his attention to the fact that he was hatless. He replied that he did not want his hat, as he was going only a little way. Mrs. Moore, to whom the deceased gave not the slightest indication of what was in his mind, then tried to persuade him to stay in the house and go to bed, but her efforts were useless. Mr. Weiker went outside, and a few moments after the report of the revolver roused the inmates, who, on running out to the street, found Mr. Weiker as already described. The deceased was a quiet, gentlemanly young fellow, temperate in his habits and with apparently nothing to trouble him. The sad tragedy has naturally pained his friends very much.

Mr. Weiker arrived in the Colony from Germany about six months ago, and was employed in the superintendent's office of the Norddeutscher-Lloyd. He was much appreciated by his employers, to whom the news of his sad end came with a shock. They say that he did his work well, was liked by everyone, and had no debts. The funeral took place at Happy Valley on the 21st inst., and was well attended.

### DEATH OF A BLUEJACKET IN POTTINGER STREET.

Another sad fatality, the second within a fortnight resulting in the death of a British bluejacket, was reported by the police on the 14th inst. The circumstances are these:—On the 13th inst. one or two sailors from H.M.S.S. *Ocean* and *Rambler* arrived at the Criterion Hotel, a drinking saloon situated at the lower end of Pottinger Street. The hour was late, and according to the statement of the landlady the men had no drink, but asked to be accommodated with beds. Two bluejackets, one of them the deceased, were shown into a back room, where no less than fourteen cot-beds, packed closely and ranged so as to utilise every available inch of space, were placed. The deceased, who was an able seaman on the *Rambler* named William Blair, lay down for a time and then got up. "I'm only going outside," he told his comrade, who shortly afterwards heard a scrambling noise and then a heavy fall. On running out, he found Blair, quite insensible and bleeding freely from a wound in the head lying underneath a zinc sunshade which had been torn from its place over a window on the ground floor of a small courtyard attached to the saloon and used for toilet purposes. Blair never regained consciousness, and died in a few minutes from a fractured skull. It is conjectured that he was attempting to gain access to the window on the first floor by climbing on top of the sunshade, which collapsed beneath his weight and precipitated Blair to the ground. The distance was only a matter of ten or twelve feet, but the deceased's injuries showed that he must have alighted on his head. The police were communicated with and the body was removed to the public mortuary, where the cause of death was certified. Blair, who was aged 24 years and a native of England, was buried in Happy Valley on the 13th inst. with the customary naval honours.

Later details show that the first belief as to how Blair met his death is incorrect. It now appears that he climbed a bamboo scaffolding

and attempted to enter a window on the second floor. The window was closed, and as he was trying to open it he lost his hold and fell to the ground, a distance of 35 feet, carrying the sunshade with him.

### THE DALLAS COMPANY AT THE THEATRE.

The term "crowded" is superfluous in describing a Dallas audience, especially on an opening night. Every seat in the Theatre Royal was occupied on the 17th inst.; as a matter of fact, they were taken days before the company arrived in the Colony. The piece staged was *The Toreador*, a musical comedy that has been received with enthusiasm in those places in the Orient already visited by this talented combination; its production the 17th inst. was equally successful. The scenery was charming, and the general effect was enhanced by the excellence that marked the rendering of the piece. While a fuller account is made impossible owing to the absence of programmes, it may be said that each one in the cast acquitted himself and herself with the greatest credit, and as a natural sequence the audience was appreciative and encores were frequent.

If the Dallas Musical and Dramatic Company made what appeared to some to be rather a lame beginning on the first night of their season at the Theatre Royal, no such remark can be applied to their second performance, which they gave on the 18th inst. before a house filled almost to the doors. The piece presented was *H.M.S. Irresponsible*, a rollicking, tuneful comedy that has gained great praise in England. Its presentation on this occasion was successful in every way: the plot was well developed, the musical numbers were rendered with excellent effect, and the dresses and the setting were tasteful and pretty, as is always the case in a Dallas production. The plot is whimsically humorous. Act I opens in the Island of Samnos, on which a party of English tourists have been cast away, among them being Captain Chepstowe, who is on his way to join his command; *H.M.S. Irresponsible*. He has in his possession a large sum of money belonging to the Government, and as the island is infested with a band of the brigands, he to save this changes places with his valet, Jim Slingsby. Latterly the stranded tourists are rescued from their troubles by a party of blue-jackets from the *Irresponsible*, who have heard of the wreck. Unfortunately for the real Captain Chepstowe, the brigands retain him as a hostage, while Jim Slingsby goes on board and finds himself in command. Act II is laid on the deck of the *Irresponsible*. As one may imagine, complications of the most laughter-provoking kind ensue as the result of Slingsby's personation of the captain. Matters assume such a shape in the end that he jumps overboard to escape detection. In Act III, which is laid in a village in Turkey, all the characters meet in customary, irresponsible comic-opera fashion, Slingsby, having been picked up by a vessel, appearing in the rôle of waiter at the principal hotel, and the real Captain Chepstowe in his true colours. Slingsby is rewarded, as all good heroes should be, with the hand of an heiress; the others of the *dramatis personæ* get their deserts likewise. In the hands of Mr. Henry Dallas, the part of Jim Slingsby was excellently done. His songs were well sung, and his acting was irresistibly comic. In the character of Captain Chepstowe, Mr. P. Knight shone to advantage as a comedian and won hearty applause for his songs. Mrs. Dallas, who was warmly received, did cleverly all that was required of her as Victoria Chaffers; and Miss Marie Arnold enacted very sweetly the part of Olive Chepstowe. Though the caste is too long to permit us to go into details, we must not omit to mention the highly successful appearance made by Mr. Harold Godwin as Lient. Anderson, nor the graceful and pretty dancing of Miss Cissy Fitzgerald. The Bob Chaffers of Mr. D. Munro was also clever and well worthy of remark.

On the 20th inst. at the Theatre Royal the Dallas Company produced *The Geisha* in presence of an audience that completely filled the house, and the piece got a reception which showed that this old favourite has still potent powers of attraction, while the members

of the Company individually acquitted themselves in a manner worthy of the excellence of the subject which they had in hand and gained from their auditors well merited approval. The plot and general scheme of *The Geisha* are too familiar to all theatre lovers to necessitate recapitulation here. It says much for its writer and composer that it retains in the degree it does the power to attract and amuse. Last evening, its representation went along as smoothly as could be desired. Miss Nellie Curtis sang sweetly and acted prettily in the title-role and impelled admiration on all sides. Neither she nor Miss Eva Clark, who appeared in the part of Molly Seamore with charming effect, has much vocal robustness, but what they lacked in that direction they made up in others. Miss Curtis was very successful with her "The Amorous Goldfish," "A Geisha's Life" and also in the "Kissing Duet" with Mr. Percival Knight. Miss Clark got encores for "Chon Kina" and "A Monkey on a Stick." Mr. Knight, by the way, was not by any means in good voice and his singing did not show to advantage, except in the "Toy Duet" with Miss Clark, but he acted with his customary vigour. As Wun Hi, Mr. Henry Dallas created endless fun all the while he was on the stage, and Mr. D. Munro was convincingly good in the rôle of the Marquis Imari. Of the others characters we cannot pass over the Lady Constance of Miss Bertha Hunter nor the Juliette of Miss Marie Arnold; and also there remains to be mentioned the graceful dancing of Miss Cissy Fitzgerald. The incidental music was unexceptionally well rendered and the dressing of the piece was both tasteful and effective.

### CONCERT AT KOWLOON INSTITUTE.

A very enjoyable evening was spent on the 18th inst. when Mrs. Brand assisted by her friends supplied the details of the programme at the weekly concert which is held at the Kowloon Institute. The hall was filled to its utmost capacity by an audience which showed by their loud and generous applause how well they appreciated the efforts which were being made to entertain them.

The chair was taken shortly after 8 o'clock by the Rev. J. H. France, M.A. Mr. Northrop commenced the proceedings with "The Diver," which was well received—as was also his rendering of the pretty Spanish ballad "Juanita" in the second part of the programme. Mrs. McCubbin then sang the ever favourite "Loch Lomond" and the pretty Scotch song "Mary." Miss Bullen followed with two recitations, after which Mrs. Whitehouse contributed the "Gates of the West," and Mr. Buckhan "The Holy City." Mr. and Mrs. Bullen, assisted by Messrs Makeham and Young, presented the humorous sketch "No Grumbling," which showed how easily grumbling could upset an otherwise happy family. After a short interval Miss Ramsey sang in her usual effective style, to Mr. W. Brand's accompaniment, "Tit-for-Tat," and, in response to an encore, "Ashore." A pleasing variety was Mr. Chamberlain's exhibition of Indian club swinging of which art he is a master. Mr. Bullen gave an humorous recitation which evoked loud laughter and applause, and Mrs. Brand terminated the programme by her tasteful rendering of "Woman's Way." The accompaniments were ably played by Mr. James S. Macnab.

The Tokyo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* wrote on the 10th inst.:—The Diet has had a peaceful close. Among seventy-nine Government Bills presented to the Lower House one alone was rejected, namely, the extraordinary appropriation for the Wakamatsu Foundry. The notable features of the session have been the placability of the *Seiyukai* and the bad relations between the two Houses.—The same correspondent says:—Three of the principal commercial and industrial associations of Tokyo have given a banquet to the British Legation and Consulates to emphasise the pacific character of the new alliance. All the Cabinet Ministers attended, but there were no speeches.



## MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 13th March.

## THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO PORTUGAL.

Following the announcement that has already been made in your columns of the approaching departure on leave of absence of H.E. Senhor Horta e Costa, the Governor, it may not be out of place to mention that in a recent issue of the *Gazette* there is published a despatch from the Minister for the Colonies commendatory of the public services rendered to the Portuguese Government by the present Governor during his tenure of office here. Coming events, it is said, cast their shadows before, and it is hoped that His Excellency's departure may not assume the form of a relinquishment for good of the reins of government. While in the homeland Senhor Horta e Costa might be instrumental in rendering further services to the Colony if his counsels could be made to prevail with the Ministers of State so as to bring about the desired liberty for Macao to spend all the surplus of its revenue upon the country itself. The doing away with all manner of monopolies of the daily commodities of life is another one of those crying necessities which would do much to assist in fostering the good of the place. A water supply, which should have been one of the first provisions to be made by the Government for the settlers, remains for these hundreds of years yet an urgent want. From a sanitary point of view the question of a good, untainted supply of water for potable purposes presses itself upon the attention of the community more and more as each plot of Crown land wherein lie the perennial springs resorted to for the precious element becomes alienated to private owners for building purposes. The Bica de Lilian in Penha, at one time supplying water of undoubted excellence, must remain for the future only as a landmark, for the dribbles that flow therefrom cease to be of much public utility. The supply from the Fonte de Felicidade, in Flora, perceptibly diminishes. Speaking of this site, it is worthy of mention that the entire piece of land, some sixty thousand square feet in area, thence seaward for the entire length of the road, has just been leased to a prominent gentleman of Hongkong, Mr. Ho Tung.

## THE LAND QUESTION.

With the subject of the alienation of land is allied that of the fees charged in the buying and selling of properties here. An opportunity for vigorous representation on the part of Senhor Horta e Costa is now afforded in a protest against the proposed raising of the already excessive fees. It is on the *tapis* that instructions from Lisbon have been received to put in force a new tariff in substitution for that now in force. At present the duty for the assignment of leasehold property is fixed at the rate of six per cent. of the consideration money, or, when this does not exceed the capitalised value for 20 years at 6 per cent. of the rental, at six per cent. of such capitalised value. Against this must be contrasted the half per cent. on the purchase price chargeable in Hongkong! From a commonsense point of view it needs not much demonstration to prove how very restricted must be the effect on transactions in landed estate in this Colony. The six per cent. rate is in itself already very high. Not content, however, with this, the powers that be in Europe that control the destinies of Macao propose imposing an additional four per cent., making in all ten per cent. as the future assignment fee legally chargeable by the Land Registry. As must reasonably be supposed, the full weight of public opinion (which unfortunately counts for nothing) is wholly against such a disastrous imposition. In the best interests of the Colony, His Excellency will be well advised could he but succeed in warding off the impending evil by securing the abolition of this obnoxious tariff. Herein will be found the wisdom of the local administration.

The present is a specially opportune moment when a very important question of land resumption, viewed in the light of the better sanitation of the city, is engaging so much anxious consideration. With this contemplated change hanging over the minds of would-be investors like a sword of Damocles, it is assuredly not calculated to furnish a practicable solution of

the resumption problem already taxed with its own inherent difficulties.

For Macao to prosper it must shake off its antiquated methods of revenue-raising and assimilate them with those of such colonies as can furnish object lessons for its correct guidance.

Macao, 17th March.

## THE PREVENTION OF PLAGUE.

The sanitary authorities must surely believe in taking time by the forelock, for there is a welcome evidence of their alertness in keeping off the advent of the plague, if it should unfortunately make its appearance again this year. In the fire-engine being requisitioned for service in the cleansing of the public sewers. For the first time to-day this season the engine and hose can be seen at work in Praia Grande pumping sea-water into the sewers and also private house-drains. For the latter purpose it is in the option of householders to call in the services of the municipal officers or not, as they may desire. If it could be arranged that while the work in the European district is carried on that in the Chinese part of the town is not neglected, it will be most satisfactory. Unfortunately this cannot be done at present, owing to the fact that there is only a single engine available. It should not be thought that the expense of another one of the type now in use is too prohibitive for the Municipality to acquire, and arrangements might therefore be made with a view to one being obtained as soon as circumstances will permit. The usefulness of the preventive measures against another outbreak of plague will not thus be militated against by an incompleteness of the necessary appliances.

For the purposes of sanitary inspection the City has again been divided into districts, and the public servants concerned are directed by proclamation of the Governor in Council and of the Municipality to carry out the duties appertaining to their respective departments. The timely measures adopted are worthy of every praise, since the inhabitants must be satisfied, in that they are not allowed to lapse into a sense of false security engendered by an entire absence beforehand of the measures best calculated to combat the annually recurrent scourge. The demolition of the large block of Chinese houses and shops in the district of San Domingo in pursuance of the scheme for the reconstruction of the market-place has now begun and is proceeding apace. Very soon the walls will have been razed to the ground and a large vacant space be made available for the new market-buildings. Financially, as in the case of the Hongkong markets, the scheme will prove all its promoters had anticipated. The areas in excess of these required for the market proper have been advantageously disposed of by private contract, in separate lots. The average price fetched is stated to be twelve dollars per square metre. Had the same land been put up for sale by public auction—the more expedient of the two courses for the disposal of public property—the assumption is that the vendors might have been better off by twenty-five per cent.

## A NEW BUILDING.

The first limited liability concern in Macao—the Empreza Economica Co., Ltd.—has purchased some Chinese property in Rua Central just below the Club União, which is being pulled down. It is intended to make room for a new building designed to meet the requirements of the Company's business, the show-room of which will be its principal feature.

## FAREWELL DINNER TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

H. E. the Governor and family were entertained at a farewell dinner at Boa Vista Hotel, on Saturday last, by some representative residents. Covers were laid for thirty-two guests. The toast list was, as usual, duly honoured. One point touched upon in one of the speeches of the evening is deserving of mention, namely, when the Provador of the Santa Casa da Misericórdia solicited the good offices of the Governor when in Lisbon to obtain the free grant to the Corporation of the dismantled Bomparto Fort or the purpose of a much-needed extension of the hotel building. Boa Vista has established such an excellent reputation with visitors that the present management has found it impossible on numerous occasions to meet all the applications for accommodation.

Macao, 18th March.

## H.E.'S DEPARTURE.

His Excellency the Governor left for Hongkong to-day. The send-off accorded him was a most cordial one. The Colonial Secretary, Sr. Alfredo Lello, will administer the government during the absence of H.E. Senhor Horta e Costa.

## PEKING.

Peking, 28th February.

## THE LADIES' AUDIENCE.

Yesterday occurred the second audience with the Empress Dowager of the official foreign ladies from the Legations and the military guards. The reception was less formal than the previous one. It was given for New Year's greetings. It took place in the palace set apart for the Empress Dowager, in the north section of the Forbidden City. There was the usual number of princesses and duchesses, polished matrons and fair maidens, all of whom, being with unbound feet, could move about with the ease of the European ladies. The Emperor was present as the "silent partner"—silent not because it is improper for a man to talk in the presence of Manchu ladies, but because he is the Emperor Kwang Hsü, supposed to say nothing. Refreshments were provided in one room for the foreign ladies, and in another for the foreign interpreters. The Emperor, though a man, was in the room with the Empress Dowager and her guests. As an innovation there was present a young Manchu lady who has been in the Chinese Legation at Berlin, and was able to act as interpreter in German, and to a slight degree in English. This is a most encouraging sign and will tend to put the stamp of respectability on the education of Chinese and Manchu girls.

As another innovation the Empress Dowager has been picking up a few English phrases and tried their effect on her guests: *Hao tu yiu*, *Ha-p'i niu yierh*, *Té-rin-kó t'i*. The Emperor was given less chance to try his English, learned a few years ago. The Empress Dowager received no presents, as was expected by some. Neither did she bestow on her guests sumptuous gifts. She contented herself by giving \$100 (Mexican) to each child who came in the company of visitors.

The largest number of any one country was American. There were five ladies and one child. As it was, two other American ladies, one the wife of an army officer, and both extremely popular in society, were excluded. They were the only ladies in either Legation, or the military to be thus excluded. We do not know who was responsible for this negligence, but know that it was not the Empress Dowager or her officials.

## COURT NEWS.

We hear that the Court in going to the Eastern Tombs, when the Empress Dowager, who for many years has been having built a large mausoleum, is to travel by rail to Tungchou. It is also being considered whether it is possible to extend the railway as far as the Eastern Tombs. That branch has been built thus far by the British.

The Empress Dowager is having, as she had a few years ago, quite a "craze" for things foreign. Social amenities and amusements are quite to her liking.

It is reported that she will hold a monthly levée for the foreign ladies, but will discontinue the giving of gifts. She is much pleased at her success in winning friends by such easy methods of social attentions. But perhaps it should not be spoken of as easy, since traditional usages have been completely ignored by the innovation of the Court since its return.

## NEGOTIATIONS.

between the Russian Minister and the Chinese Plenipotentiaries have been resumed, but we doubt very much if any agreement will be reached.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Industrial School of Huang Sze-yung, notwithstanding the first opposition of the Civil Governor, Ch'en Pi, has really never yet been closed. Ch'en Pi, finding that his particular conservatism was not popular, tried to turn around. Mr. Huang was told that when he finds another place, he can move. This may mean staying on in the old place. The Mandarin paper is to be resumed, as the Empress Dowager



having seen some copies, is much in favour of it. Several readers will be found in the palace, and all that will be needed will be silence as to all faults in the place.

#### EDUCATIONAL WORK.

The official Industrial School, under Ch'en Pi himself, has been started by first purchasing a building at a cost of some 8,000 taels, and by placing several officials in charge. Industrial work has not yet been begun.

Schools for foreign languages and learning are being reopened after the new year festivities, and several are being opened for the first time. They all are being run "on the cheap," and are content with any one who professes to know Western science. They are all remarkable for elaborate regulations. I think there are many who have noticed that the literary Chinese are always keen on drawing up lengthy regulations, and are never satisfied with merely a few simple rules. Even a small boys' school, as managed by Hanlins, must have enough regulations to weigh down an ordinary German university. The main thing with them is a "System of Regulations" rather than a first-class instructor.

The Chancellor of the Imperial University, Chang Pei-hsi, has already enlarged the site at present utilised, by taking in the property adjoining at his own price, or rather according to the reckoning of his deputies.

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE IMPERIAL JOURNEY.

The Provincial Treasurer, Chou Fu, has been here to have an audience, and to receive instructions concerning the preparations he is to make for the Imperial journey to the Eastern Tombs.

#### HONOURS FOR MISSIONARIES.

Through a report from him, the Viceroy has presented a Memorial to the Throne asking for Imperial honours—and, I suppose, buttons—to be bestowed on the officials and missionaries who have through the last year been conferring about Church indemnities in Peking and this province, and about the punishment of Boxers and the settlement of lawsuits. The Viceroy reported that everything has been settled. We hear, however, that very few on the list of guilty leaders and murderers made out by the missionaries, have been punished. Some have even been promoted and honoured. We have not yet learned what missionaries have been "seconded for recognition," but the list cannot be a small one, as nearly every Protestant missionary had something to do in the matters of the last year. The two Catholic Bishops in Peking, one of whom has a second button and the other a third, will be advanced one grade.

#### ACCOMMODATION FOR THE FOREIGN GARRISON.

The Russian Legation is at last engaged in putting up buildings for the Russian barracks and military officers. The United States Legation is laying the foundation for its own buildings, as the present quarters are soon to be occupied by the Korean Legation, the property having been purchased by the Korean Government from Col. Denby. The Japanese military quarters with their buildings and tall brick chimneys or towers, look very much like a Shanghai cotton-mill. The Italian and Austrian quarters look something like a mediæval castle. —N.C. Daily News.

#### FOOCHOW.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 8th March:—

Mr. G. W. W. Pearson was appointed Pro-Consul at the British Consulate on the 6th instant.

H. B. M. Consul has appointed Mr. R. B. Begley to be Acting Postal Agent.

The entries for the Spring Meeting of the Fohkien Race Club closed on the 6th instant. Although the ponies in training are not numerous there are sufficient to ensure good sport. The fixture is for the 19th and 20th of this month.

To the great relief of agriculturists, garden owners and others, rain has at length come. It commenced on the night of the 2nd inst. and although it has not been continuous, enough has fallen during the week to meet immediate wants. Wells and ponds have been replenished, and we hear that those interested in the coming Race Meeting are particularly pleased at having a softer course to train their ponies on.

The fire of Thursday night was on the north bank of the river, below the long bridge. It broke out at about 8 o'clock, and is said to have been caused by some accident in a small native kerosene oil-store. Be that as it may, the timber yard close by was quickly in flames, and the fire spread with such rapidity from stack to stack of dry poles that in a couple of hours the conflagration was appalling. Much more so was it in the small hours of the morning, by which time the fire had extended over several acres of land. The blaze must have been seen for many miles round. For fifteen hours the fire continued to rage, and the smouldering went on until late evening. The best endeavours of those in charge of fire-engines were of no avail. The soldiery sent from the city to keep order were on duty all night. A good deal of destruction might have been saved had the authorities taken the responsibility of pulling down a row or two of the stacks earlier. A multitude of pillagers were, as usual on such occasions, busy carrying away what they could get in spite of the intense heat, many of them getting badly burnt. Besides almost all of the stacked timber the entire street running at the back of the yards was destroyed, numbering some two to three hundred houses. Fears were entertained that the foreign godowns, a little lower down the river, would suffer, but luckily there was no wind and they escaped. The value of the wood destroyed, which belonged to Ningpo timber-merchants, is estimated at \$500,000.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

#### THE BUILDING ORDINANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
Hongkong, 15th March.

SIR,—The new Bill to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Buildings which the Government now endeavours to rush through the Council is a very drastic and a very arbitrary measure to be put before the public. To criticise its various sections would take up columns of your valuable paper. The effect of the Ordinance would be the means of increasing the already high rents and the cost of living; it will also increase wages all round and would also be the means of encouraging crimes.

The present state of high rents and cost of living can be easily traced to the voluminous laws and bye-laws of the Sanitary Board. Alterations and improvements to buildings in the last few years have been done at the expense of landlords, without their receiving the slightest compensation from the Government, which is alone responsible for laying out building sites in the streets and lanes; and the class of houses which the Government now tries to condemn has been erected with its cognisance and approval. As a natural sequence the landlords, to recoup themselves for the extra outlay, demand an increased rent.

The new Bill, if passed as it stands, would also be the means of driving capital out of this Colony and causing hundreds of families to find shelter in Macao or Canton. The Bill with its many other sweeping and most arbitrary clauses, without mentioning any compensation, tries to sweep away about one-tenth of the existing tenement houses without giving the landlords concerned a chance of re-constructing them and also enacts the re-modelling of almost all the remaining houses, as opportunities occur, at the expense of the landlords and tenants.

The Government is playing a waiting game by sitting quietly to see the re-construction of these houses, necessitated by fire, old age, earthquake, typhoon, etc., which will take decades of years.

The question arises—What has induced the Government to introduce this most arbitrary and sweeping measure to endeavour to stamp out plague and to have a better class of buildings all round? The Government, through its own past acts and omissions, has been a party to the existing state of things, as all houses, whether sanitary or insanitary, have been built with the consent and approval of the Government, which now wishes to remodel them at the sole expense of those to whom support and encouragement have been given by itself. Why waste thousands

and thousands of dollars in fumigation and other flea-bite remedies and have thousands and thousands of people die like rats (for the measures in the Bill cannot touch even the most insanitary building until its re-construction from one of the causes above described), and why not resume at once the most ill-ventilated and unhealthy lots? It would be more straightforward if the Government would build at once sufficient up-to-date sanitary houses and then resume a certain number of the buildings that are considered unhealthy to accommodate the tenants of the resumed area. It behoves our sanitary authorities, if they have the overcrowding question at heart, to begin by taking steps to remove the disorderly houses in the central district first.

The new Bill in its crude form is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and unless the Government plays a fair game by giving compensation of resuming at once insanitary houses and dwellings, the Colony will be the same in the next twenty-five years as it is now.—Yours, etc.,

A. R.

[Our correspondent will see that the second reading of the Bill in question has been postponed—Ed., D.P.]

#### THE VOLUNTEERS AND THE CORONATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
Hongkong, 20th March.

SIR,—It is sincerely to be hoped that the home authorities will approve of Major-General Gascoigne's proposal to send a strong detachment of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps to represent this Colony at the forthcoming Coronation. In that event, may I suggest that the men to be sent should be the pick of the corps—of fine physique and smart—so that the Colony will be as worthily represented as the other colonies?—Yours, etc.,

E.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
Hongkong, 21st March.

SIR,—I was glad to see, and other Volunteers here will be equally glad, the suggestion made by your correspondent "E" that in the event of a detachment of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps being sent home for the Coronation the men sent should be the pick of the Corps. I understand however that the detachment to be sent will consist of those who are able to obtain the essential leave. This does not necessarily mean the smartest men in the Corps, and although the whole scheme is still in the air, may I suggest that the required number of men be selected, proficiency and smartness being of course taken into account, and an official application for leave be made to the various employers? The leave required is only three months (as at Singapore) and if the Corps is to be properly represented and able to run the gauntlet of the critical spectators of the procession, and comparison with other bodies, this appears to me to be the only course that can be adopted.—Yours, etc.,

F. B.

#### A NUISANCE TO SLEEPERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
Hongkong, 19th March.

SIR,—I should like to call attention to the annoyance caused to many people by the guns being fired on the American men-of-war at 5 a.m. It is fairly safe to say that the majority of people enjoy their best sleep about that time, and surely the men on the boats do not sleep so soundly as to need awakening by gun-fire. The practice is a real source of annoyance to light sleepers and invalids such as—Yours, etc.,

W.

#### CRUELTY TO DOGS IN HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
Hongkong, 21st March.

SIR,—Will you please grant me a small space in your valuable paper to voice the cause of man's best friend, the dog? I notice that for some time past the police have been running in in right earnest all unlicensed dogs that are found prowling about the streets. This is a step in the



right direction, as we do not care to have hydrophobia added to the list of sicknesses and misfortunes which this Colony is subjected to; but why not carry this out in a decent manner, such as will not entail suffering to the poor dumb animals? I have noticed dogs which have been lassoed by the Chinese lukongs and dog-catchers being dragged along the streets for a very long way in a most brutal manner, the animals evidently suffering great pain and arriving perhaps at the Police Station half dying. Why not have a large iron-wire cage, and as soon as a dog is caught have it put inside and carried to the station, to be there either destroyed or claimed by its owner? I understand that this is how it is done up in Shanghai by the Municipality, who have a reputation of doing things in the right way. The cage can be made large enough to hold half a dozen dogs at a time. I have even seen a licensed dog with collar and the metal badge attached (as required by the ordinance) lassoed by a Chinaman in plain clothes; of course as soon as he found out that the dog was licensed he let him go—a very zealous officer, no doubt. The whole system lacks European supervision, and it behoves the police to see that the law for the prevention of cruelty to animals is enforced, instead of allowing these acts of cruelty and unnecessary seal being practised daily by a gang of ignorant Chinese lukongs. Thanking you for the insertion of this letter.—Yours, etc.,

A FRIEND OF THE DOGS.

### HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LD.

The fifteenth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in this Company was held at the offices, 2, Connaught Road, on the 20th inst. The Hon. J. J. Bell Irving presided, and the others present were the Hon. C. P. Chater and Messrs. D. M. Moses, A. J. Raymond, E. Goetz, N. A. Siebs, E. M. H. Schubart, C. H. Thompson, A. Haupt, E. A. Hewett, G. H. Medhurst, C. S. Sharp, R. K. Leigh, R. C. Wilcox, A. Ross, R. J. Macgowan, R. H. Potts, Ho Fook, F. Smyth, W. J. Saunders, G. de Champeaux, H. L. Denny, E. Osborne, Captain Tillett, and Captain W. E. Clarke.

The notice convening the meeting having been read.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission we will, as usual, dispense with the formality of reading the report and accounts. In one respect the year's working has been disappointing; we had hoped, and reasonably, I think, that following upon settlement of the Northern troubles, trade would resume its normal conditions, and, with the political atmosphere cleared, an improvement might even be looked for; but these hopes, so far as concern the Wharf Co., have not been fulfilled, the volume of our business having remained almost stationary. Gross receipts, it is true, were larger than during the previous year, and no doubt it has struck you as peculiar that whilst these have grown, the net profits are little more than as shown in 1900. This, gentlemen, is due to larger expenditure, foreseeing which we slightly raised some of the rates at the beginning of the year, but notwithstanding this, profits have not kept pace with receipts. The causes of this you are no doubt familiar with, and I need not therefore refer to them further than to mention the continued fall in exchange, with its inevitable rise in the price of commodities and labour, whilst measures for prevention of plague have been costly, and expenditure in almost all directions has increased. There is, however, one source of expenditure, and a large one, concerning which it is right to give a few words of explanation. With expansion of business and the increasing responsibility entailed by the custody of so many millions' worth of goods, coupled with the difficulty of obtaining satisfactory service from Chinese, it became apparent to your directors some 18 months ago that a radical change was desirable in the personnel of the staff, that the business was getting beyond the capabilities of the Chinese employees unaided by Europeans, and considerably more European supervision was necessary. Accordingly, the staff of Europeans was augmented, and although the expense has been great,

as shown in the accounts, results have justified the change. Claims for losses have almost disappeared, work has gone on smoothly in a way it never did before, whilst the absence of delays and mistakes that used formerly to be so frequent a source of irritation and loss, is evidence of improvement in the conduct of the business, so that, although the outlay has been heavy, it has been distinctly beneficial, and your directors are convinced that the change is for the real and lasting good of the Company's interests. Considerable progress has been made in the construction of new buildings and equipment of launches, lighters, steam-cranes, &c., all of which, though slow to yield immediate profit, tend largely to the general efficiency of work, and enable the Company to hold its own more successfully against its numerous native competitors, and the unfair rivalry of salaried godownmen in private employ. This outlay in improvements has been large, more especially in buildings, and there will need to be still further expenditure in order to provide the accommodation to which I alluded at the general meeting held three years ago. When you come, however, to analyse the Company's financial position, and comprehend its assets in the shape of wharves, railways, rolling stock, launches, lighters, and machinery, written down to practically their auction value, when you contemplate your magnificent property at Kowloon comprising 900,000 square feet of land, standing in the books, including buildings, at only \$2.58 per square foot, which is less than half the real value, land which possesses unrivalled deep-water frontage and is covered with first-class buildings, and when you come to dwell upon the latent possibilities of your business, I think, gentlemen, you are entitled to cherish the comfortable assurance that so long as the prosperity of Hongkong continues unchecked, your possession is indeed one of high value, and a value which, in all probability, is not likely to diminish (applause). To review the figures embodied in the accounts would perhaps be superfluous, as these have been given so fully in detail, but should any shareholder desire further information on any point, I shall be pleased to give it before moving the adoption of the report.

There were no questions, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. Ross, the report and accounts were adopted.

The next business was the confirmation of the appointments as directors of Messrs. E. M. H. Schubart, C. H. Thompson, H. A. Ritchie, E. Goetz, and E. A. Hewett, and on the motion of Mr. WILCOX, seconded by Mr. DE CHAMPEAUX, the meeting passed the necessary resolution.

Captain TILLET proposed the re-election as directors of Messrs. D. M. Moses and G. H. Medhurst, and the motion, having been seconded by Mr. SMYTH, was carried without opposition. Mr. HO FOOK moved that Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdine be re-appointed auditors.

Mr. SAUNDERS seconded and the motion was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN—That is everything, gentlemen. Dividend warrants may be obtained to-day.

The following is the report:—

Accounts.—The gross revenue derived from wharfage, landing, &c., amounted to \$809,823.30 as against \$768,593.31 the previous year, shewing an increase of \$41,229.99, and the profit on working was \$242,759.02 as compared with \$239,585.41 in 1900, being an increase of \$3,173.62.

The balance at credit of profit and loss account, after paying interim dividend of 5 per cent. including premium on shares sold and \$22,063.07 brought forward from last year, is \$149,028.22 which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:

|                                              |                     |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Directors' and Auditors' fees                | \$10,500.00         |
| Final dividend of 5 per cent.                | 75,000.00           |
| Transfer to depreciation and repairs account | 31,000.00           |
| Write off launches                           | 1,700.00            |
| " lighters                                   | 8,874.60            |
| " railways and rolling stock                 | 5,661.83            |
| " machinery, furniture and plant             | 4,889.05            |
| Carry forward to new account                 | 12,402.74           |
|                                              | <b>\$149,028.22</b> |

Business.—Nothing of an exceptional nature occurred during the year in connection with the Company's business nor was there any marked increase of imports after the settlement of the troubles in North China. Stocks throughout the year were restricted and still remain so.

Capital.—The 314 shares of new capital not taken up were forfeited and sold.

Buildings.—The two storeyed godown on K. M. L. 22 and 6 houses on K. M. L. 415 referred to in last report were completed and the 22 Chinese houses are well advanced.

Lighters.—Eight new open boats have been built, bringing the number up to 4 decked and 37 open boats having an aggregate tonnage of 4,850 tons, which is sufficient for present requirements.

Launches.—A small pinnace, the *Pelican*, for running lines and light towing was built and is doing useful work.

Machinery and plant.—Seven steam cranes and hoists were acquired for hoisting goods to the upper storeys of new godowns and for the rapid loading and discharging of lighters.

#### DIRECTORS.

Messrs. P. Sachse, J. A. Mackay, A. M. Marshall and P. Witkowski having resigned, their places were taken respectively by Messrs. E. M. H. Schubart, C. H. Thompson, H. A. Ritchie and E. Goetz; Mr. H. A. Ritchie having resigned on leaving the Colony, his place has been taken by Mr. E. A. Hewett. These appointments require confirmation.

Messrs. D. M. Moses and G. H. Medhurst retire in rotation, according to the Articles of Association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDITORS.

Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdine (the latter in place of Mr. F. Henderson) have audited the accounts now presented, and offer themselves for re-election.

J. J. BELL-IRVING,  
Chairman.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1902.

The accounts are as follows:—

#### BALANCE-SHEET.

31st December, 1901.

| Dr.                                                                   | LIABILITIES. | \$                 | c.        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------|
| To capital (30,000 shares at \$50 fully paid up)                      |              | 1,500,000          | 00        |
| To Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation                          |              | 348,635            | 75        |
| To debentures outstanding                                             |              | 500,000            | 00        |
| To Land Investment Co.—mortgage                                       |              | 250,000            | 00        |
| To reserve fund                                                       |              | 250,000            | 00        |
| To depreciation and repairs account                                   |              | 57,725             | 74        |
| To unclaimed dividends                                                |              | 607                | 50        |
| To sundry creditors:—                                                 |              |                    |           |
| Directors' and auditors' fees                                         | \$10,500.00  |                    |           |
| Final dividend                                                        | 75,000.00    |                    |           |
| Accounts payable                                                      | 126,112.03   |                    |           |
|                                                                       |              | 211,612            | 08        |
| To profit and loss account, balance                                   |              | 12,402             | 74        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>\$3,130,983</b> | <b>81</b> |
| Cr.                                                                   | ASSETS.      | \$                 | c.        |
| By value of land and buildings at Kowloon as per last account         |              | 2,127,939          | 84        |
| By since expended on levelling land and on new buildings              |              | 198,972            | 79        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>2,326,912</b>   | <b>63</b> |
| By value of wharves at Kowloon as per last account                    |              | 160,000            | 00        |
| By value of railways and rolling stock at Kowloon as per last account |              | 55,000             | 00        |
| Since expended on new rails, &c.                                      |              | 15,661             | 83        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>\$70,661</b>    | <b>83</b> |
| Less written off                                                      |              | 5,661              | 83        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>65,000</b>      | <b>00</b> |
| By value of 5 launches as per last account                            |              | \$15,000           | 00        |
| Since expended on new launch                                          |              | 3,700              | 00        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>\$38,700</b>    | <b>00</b> |
| Less written off                                                      |              | 1,700              | 00        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>37,000</b>      | <b>00</b> |
| By value of lighters as per last account                              |              | \$33,000           | 00        |
| Since expended on new lighters                                        |              | 28,874             | 60        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>\$116,874</b>   | <b>60</b> |
| Less written off                                                      |              | 8,874              | 60        |
|                                                                       |              | <b>108,000</b>     | <b>00</b> |



|                                                                                |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| By value of land at West Point (39,024 square feet at \$4) as per last account | \$156,250.00   |
| By value of buildings at West Point as per last account                        | 106,893.88     |
| By value of sheet legs as per last account                                     | 3,000.00       |
| By value of machinery, furniture and plant as per last account                 | \$25,000.00    |
| Since expended on new machinery                                                | 29,889.05      |
|                                                                                | \$54,889.05    |
| Less written off                                                               | 4,889.05       |
|                                                                                | 50,000.00      |
| By sundry debtors                                                              | 102,846.90     |
| By Hongkong Bank (unclaimed dividends)                                         | 607.50         |
| By cash on hand                                                                | 932.13         |
| By value of coal on hand                                                       | 709.87         |
| By value of timber, iron and stores on hand                                    | 72,890.81      |
|                                                                                | \$3,130,983.81 |

|                                                                                                       |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Dr. WORKING ACCOUNT.                                                                                  | \$ c.        |
| To wages of permanent staff                                                                           | 212,903.92   |
| To Crown rent                                                                                         | 11,786.02    |
| To taxes                                                                                              | 15,225.41    |
| To charges (office and telephone rent, stationery and printing, collecting commission, sundries, &c.) | 23,023.16    |
| To legal expenses                                                                                     | 1,639.00     |
| To fire insurance                                                                                     | 5,594.62     |
| To claims on cargo                                                                                    | 2,854.42     |
| To expenses on cargo & coal, coolie hire, &c.                                                         | 271,793.41   |
| To expenses of launches                                                                               | 13,742.28    |
| To expenses of lighters                                                                               | 8,702.04     |
| To balance to profit and loss account                                                                 | 242,759.02   |
|                                                                                                       | \$809,823.30 |

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Cr.                       | \$ c.        |
| By wharfage, storing, &c. | 809,823.30   |
|                           | \$809,823.30 |

|                                              |              |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.                 | \$ c.        |
| To interest                                  | 55,785.47    |
| To interim dividend                          | 74,300.00    |
| To balance appropriated as follows:—         |              |
| Directors' and auditors' fees                | \$10,500.00  |
| Final dividend                               | 75,000.00    |
| Transfer to depreciation and repairs account | 30,000.00    |
| Amount written off:—                         |              |
| Launches                                     | 1,700.00     |
| Lighters                                     | 8,874.60     |
| Railways and rolling stock                   | 5,661.83     |
| Machinery, furniture & plant                 | 4,889.05     |
| Amount carried to new account                | 12,402.74    |
|                                              | 149,028.22   |
|                                              | \$279,113.69 |

|                                                         |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Cr.                                                     | \$ c.        |
| By balance from last account                            | 22,063.07    |
| By transfer from working account, 1901                  | 242,759.02   |
| By premium on 314 shares at \$25 each                   | 7,850.00     |
| By additional premium on shares taken up after due date | 6,053.10     |
| By unclaimed dividends                                  | 164.50       |
| By transfer fees                                        | 219.00       |
|                                                         | \$279,113.69 |

|                                                   |             |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Dr. DEPRECIATION AND REPAIR ACCOUNT.              | \$ c.       |
| To repairs, renewals and improvements during 1901 | 37,442.46   |
| To balance                                        | 57,725.74   |
|                                                   | \$95,168.20 |

|                                          |             |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Cr.                                      | \$ c.       |
| By balance from 1900                     | 65,163.20   |
| By transfer from profit and loss account | 30,000.00   |
|                                          | \$95,168.20 |

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Dr. RESERVE FUND.            | \$ c.      |
| To balance                   | 250,000.00 |
| Cr.                          | \$ c.      |
| By balance from last account | 250,000.00 |

### CHINA & MANILA STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

The following is the report presented to the shareholders at the nineteenth ordinary general meeting, held at the office of the general managers on Saturday, 22nd inst., at 11 a.m.:

Annexed we beg to submit to shareholders the usual annual statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1901.

The net profit, including the balance brought forward, amounts to \$115,594.47, which it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz.:

|                                         |            |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|
| To place to reserve fund                | \$5,000.00 |
| To carry forward to next year's account | 110,594.47 |

In accordance with the special resolutions passed on 28th December, 1901, the capital of the Company was raised to \$1,500,000, but as very little of the additional capital has been subscribed by shareholders, the profits of the year have all been absorbed in the purchase of the new boats, and there are, therefore, no funds available for the payment of a dividend.

The s.s. *Zafiro* commenced running on the line on 30th November, 1901, and has given great satisfaction.

#### CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. D. Gillies having resigned, Mr. J. S. Van Buren was appointed in his place, but does not offer himself for re-election this year. In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. N. A. Siebs and H. P. White retire, but offer themselves for re-election. The managers also recommend the election of Messrs. D. E. Brown and G. H. Medhurst as additional members of the Consulting Committee.

#### AUDITORS.

Mr. F. Henderson retires on leaving for home, and Mr. W. H. Potts is recommended for election in his place. Mr. T. Arnold offers himself for re-election.

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1902.

The accounts are as follows:—

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Consulting committee's fees        | \$ 4,030.00  |
| Auditors' fees                     | 400.00       |
| Interest                           | 8,755.32     |
| Charges                            | 2,818.18     |
| Amount written off as depreciation | 99,463.95    |
| Balance                            | 115,594.47   |
|                                    | \$231,081.92 |

|                                             |              |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Balance brought forward from 1900           | \$ 67,845.26 |
| Profit on working of the company's strs.    | 162,524.40   |
| Profit on sale of 13 shares not applied for | 149.50       |
|                                             | \$231,081.92 |

#### BALANCE-SHEET.

|                                                 |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| LIABILITIES.                                    | \$ c.           |
| Capital—                                        |                 |
| 20,000 shares of \$50 each                      | \$ 1,000,000.00 |
| fully paid up                                   |                 |
| Less call of \$10 per share on 25 shares unpaid | 250.00          |
|                                                 | 999,750.00      |
| Reserve fund                                    | 20,000.00       |
| Underwriting account                            | 21,235.63       |
| Sundry creditors                                | 36,675.44       |
| Due to general managers                         | 5,551.10        |
| Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation       | 222,096.85      |
| London loan, account new steamers               | 521,739.12      |
| Exchange adjustment account                     | 49,689.45       |
| Balance of profit and loss                      | 115,594.47      |
|                                                 | \$1,994,332.06  |

|                                                                                             |                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| ASSETS.                                                                                     | \$ c.          |
| Value of steamers <i>Perla</i> , <i>Esmeralda</i> and <i>Diamante</i> as per last statement | 460,000.00     |
| Amount expended on steamers <i>Rubi</i> and <i>Zafiro</i> to the 31st December, 1901        | 1,411,123.30   |
|                                                                                             | \$1,871,123.30 |
| Less depreciation for 1901                                                                  | 96,121.30      |
|                                                                                             | 1,775,000.00   |
| Value of buoys and moorings as per last statement                                           | \$500.00       |
| Since expended                                                                              | 3,792.12       |
|                                                                                             | \$4,292.12     |
| Less depreciation for 1901                                                                  | 1,292.12       |
|                                                                                             | 3,000.00       |
| Value of coal on hand                                                                       | 2,637.00       |
| Value of stores on hand                                                                     | \$7,548.53     |
| Less depreciation                                                                           | 2,043.53       |
|                                                                                             | 5,500.00       |
| Premium value of unexpired policies                                                         | 55,658.97      |
| Sundry debtors                                                                              | 49,458.24      |
| Outstanding freight 1901                                                                    | 70,606.93      |
| <i>Perla</i> accident account                                                               | 3,958.29       |
| <i>Esmeralda</i> accident account                                                           | 25,775.59      |
| Cash on hand                                                                                | 2,737.04       |
|                                                                                             | \$1,994,332.06 |

The French mail steamer *Sydney* sailed from Singapore on Sunday with M. Paul Doumer, Governor-General of Indo-China, and Vice-Admiral Pottier, retiring from the command of the French Asiatic squadron, on board. M. Doumer, though he has not definitely resigned, is not expected back. He leaves the affairs of the province in the hands of the Secretary General, M. Broni, with his residence at Hanoi.

### CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-fourth annual general meeting, to be held at the offices of the general agents, at noon on Thursday, 27th March:—

The general agents beg to submit to shareholders their report on the company's business for the year 1901, with a statement of accounts to 31st December last.

The refineries were well employed during the greater part of the year, but the importations of beet-root sugar into the Eastern markets referred to in the last report continued to interfere with the prices realised for the Company's products.

The sum at credit of profit and loss account is \$258,500.17, out of which, \$100,000 was paid as an interim dividend of \$5 per share on the 24th of August last, the balance \$158,500.17, the general agents and consulting committee recommend should be dealt with as follows, viz.:

|                                                              |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| A final dividend of \$7 per share (making \$12 for the year) | \$140,000.00 |
| Carry forward to next account                                | 18,500.17    |

\$158,500.17

#### CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

The present members are Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. D. M. Moses, C. S. Sharp and B. C. Wilcox, who offer themselves for re-election; Mr. D. Gillies has resigned his seat on his approaching departure from the Colony.

#### AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Thos. Arnold and Fullerton Henderson. Mr. Thos. Arnold offers himself for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1902.

The accounts are as follows:—

#### BALANCE-SHEET.

For one year to 31st December, 1901.

|                                                              |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.                                     | \$ c.          |
| Paid-up capital                                              | 2,000,000.00   |
| Equalisation of dividend fund                                | 160,000.00     |
| Sundry creditors                                             | 4,792,189.03   |
| Balance of profit & loss account                             | \$258,500.17   |
| Less interim dividend of 5 per cent, paid on 24th Aug., 1901 | 100,000.00     |
|                                                              | 158,500.17     |
|                                                              | \$7,110,689.20 |

#### ASSETS.

|                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Property account, consisting of— | \$ c.          |
| East Point Refinery              |                |
| Bowrington Refinery              |                |
| Swatow Refinery                  | 1,522,496.05   |
| Hongkong Distillery              |                |
| Site of Sookunpoo                |                |
| Cash                             | 4,250.36       |
| Raw and refined sugar, &c.       | 1,915,836.43   |
| Spirits and rum, &c.             | 8,709.87       |
| Charcoal, coal, stores, &c.      | 233,884.62     |
| Sundry debtors                   | 71,109.35      |
| Shipments                        | \$3,993,654.23 |
| Less advances                    | 639,251.71     |
|                                  | 3,354,402.52   |
|                                  | \$7,110,689.20 |

#### PROPERTY ACCOUNT.

|                                        |                |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| To balance of debit on 31st Dec., 1900 | \$1,505,725.80 |
| To new machinery, &c.                  | 16,770.25      |
|                                        | \$1,522,496.05 |
| By balance at date                     | \$1,522,496.05 |

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

|                                                              |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| To commission                                                | \$ 36,179.10 |
| To remuneration to consulting committee                      | 2,500.00     |
| To auditors' fees                                            | 750.00       |
| To interest                                                  | 89,359.83    |
|                                                              | \$128,788.93 |
| To interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid on 24th August, 1901 | 100,000.00   |
|                                                              | \$228,788.93 |
| To balance                                                   | 158,500.17   |
|                                                              | \$387,289.10 |
| By balance of profit and loss account carried from last year | \$11,800.16  |
| By gain on working                                           | 375,488.94   |
|                                                              | \$387,289.10 |



## LUZON SUGAR REFINING CO., LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twentieth annual general meeting, to be held at the offices of the general agents, at 12.15 p.m. on Thursday, 27th March:—

The general agents beg to submit their report for the year 1901, with a statement of accounts to 31st December last.

As stated at the last annual meeting, it was found necessary to close the refinery soon after the beginning of the year under review, there being no sufficient outlet for its sugars, and the same reason has prevented the resumption of work since.

The stocks of sugar on hand were disposed of in the spring of last year, and current expenses reduced to the lowest point consistent with proper care of the buildings and machinery, etc., which have been maintained in good order.

Including \$10,011.85 at debit on 31st December, 1900, the accounts show a loss of \$50,675.81, which is carried forward to next account.

## CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

The present members are Mr. H. P. White and Mr. C. S. Sharp, the latter having been invited to join the Board in place of Mr. Gillies, who has resigned on his approaching departure from the Colony.

## AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Thos. Arnold, who offers himself for re-election.

JARDINE MATHESON & CO.,

General Agents

Hongkong, 19th March, 1902.

The accounts are as follows:—

## CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

| LIABILITIES.                                    | \$           | c. |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|----|
| Capital account .....                           | 700,000.00   |    |
| Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s current account ..... | 35,556.48    |    |
| Sundry creditors .....                          | 3,764.59     |    |
| Cash .....                                      | 162.63       |    |
|                                                 | \$739,783.70 |    |

| ASSETS.                                       | \$           | c. |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|----|
| Property account .....                        | 632,142.43   |    |
| Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation ..... | 19,955.20    |    |
| Coal, charcoal, stores, &c. ....              | 35,802.44    |    |
| Sundry debtors .....                          | 1,207.82     |    |
|                                               | \$689,107.89 |    |
| Balance of profit and loss account .....      | 50,675.81    |    |
|                                               | \$739,783.70 |    |

## PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| To balance from last year .....    | \$10,011.85 |
| To interest .....                  | 3,389.02    |
| To auditor's fee .....             | 150.00      |
| To Manila agents' commission ..... | 1,480.52    |
| To loss on working .....           | 36,874.42   |
|                                    | \$51,905.81 |
| By gain in exchange .....          | \$1,230.00  |
| By balance .....                   | 50,675.81   |
|                                    | \$51,905.81 |

## SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 17th March.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

S.S. "TAI-CHEONG" v. S.S. "SKRAMSTAD."

Judgment was delivered in this suit which arose out of the triple collision which took place on 20th November, whereby the s.s. *Skramstad* was sunk and the *Tai-cheong* and the *Perla* damaged. Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, was counsel for the plaintiffs (instructed by Messrs. Dennys & Bowley, solicitors), Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law, appeared for the defendants (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, solicitors), and Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, solicitors) watched the case on behalf of the owners of the *Perla*.

The nautical assessors were Commander Fawcner, R.N., of H.M.S. *Glory*; and Captain Pybus, R.N.R., of the *Empress of Japan*.

His Lordship said—These actions are the outcome of a collision or collisions that took place on November 20, 1901, somewhere to the north

of Braemar Point, at about 5.45 p.m. Braemar Point is not named on the chart, but is a point about half-way between Quarry Point and North Point on the northern shore of Hongkong. It appears from the pleadings and evidence that, on the evening in question, the German steamer *Tai-cheong* was on a voyage from Hongkong to Swatow, and that the Norwegian steamer *Skramstad* was on her way from Amoy to Hongkong in ballast. About the time above mentioned, the two vessels collided and a third vessel, namely the s.s. *Perla*, which was following, ran into the *Tai-cheong* and glanced off on to the *Skramstad*. Five writs were taken out, namely Nos. 12 and 14 of 1901 being cross actions between the *Perla* and *Tai-cheong*, and Nos. 13, 15, and 16 being actions between the *Tai-cheong* and *Skramstad*. By consent, the three last actions were consolidated, and it was ordered that they should be tried first and the other two should stand over until the decision in the *Tai-cheong* and *Skramstad* actions had been delivered. The case came on for hearing before myself and two assessors. Although, as is usual, each side attributes many faults to the other, yet in this case there are really only two questions to be considered and those are (1) the actual place of collision, and (2) the course taken by the *Skramstad* after getting through Lyeemun and the course taken by the *Tai-cheong*, after passing Blackheads Point. That is practically the course taken by each vessel after sighting the other. Now, with regard to the first point: it was contended on behalf of the *Tai-cheong* that the collision took place about 300 yards from the northern shore of Hongkong, and, that being so, the *Skramstad* was on her wrong side of the channel, having regard to Article 25 of the Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, and so was to blame. In support of this view there was the evidence of the captain of the *Tai-cheong*, but I think it was of a very unsatisfactory nature both as regards his oral evidence and the course he drew on a chart; in fact own counsel had to make some apology for him. On the other hand, the evidence for the *Skramstad* makes it quite clear to me that the collision took place much further off the northern shore of Hongkong than the captain of the *Tai-cheong* states. It is perfectly certain that, after the actual moment of contact, the *Skramstad* was pushed by the *Tai-cheong* a considerable way towards the Hongkong shore, and also travelled some way after the vessels got clear, and sank some 200 to 250 yards North of Braemar Point. This is borne out by the evidence of the second engineer of the *Skramstad*, who states that his engines were going astern from 5.45 p.m. to 6.7 p.m. In addition to this, there is the evidence of a petty officer from H.M.S. *Humber*, who is an independent witness, and who was in a boat and watched the whole thing. It is quite possible his ideas of distance are not quite correct, but I see no reason to doubt the main facts of his story. The question of narrow does not arise in the case, as I am of opinion that the *Skramstad* was not on the wrong side of the channel, but was at a point considerably north of the point indicated by the captain of the *Tai-cheong*. Although this is a question of fact, I may say that my assessors agree with me entirely. That being so I now find that even supposing it to be a narrow channel, a point which I do not decide, the *Skramstad* cannot be held to blame under Article 25. Now to turn to the second point, viz., the navigation of the vessels. Of course having come to the conclusion that the account of the *Tai-cheong* as to the place of collision is incorrect, I have to examine closely the evidence on her behalf as to her manœuvres. According to the *Tai-cheong*, the red light of the *Skramstad* was first sighted 1½ miles off, about three points on the starboard bow. The *Tai-cheong* then ported and the *Skramstad* opened her green light. The *Tai-cheong* blew no blast and then went full speed astern and hard aport. Just before the collision the *Skramstad* opened her red light. A collision occurred, and the *Skramstad* was cut into just abaft of her collision bulkhead. The captain of the *Tai-cheong* marked out the course of the two vessels on a chart (exhibit 1) showing also the place of collision, but the course he attributed to the *Skramstad* was so extraordinary that even his own counsel had to admit he was no draughtsman. If, however,

his oral evidence was correct he was bound to denote a course similar to what he did, or he would have contradicted himself. As a matter of fact part of the argument was that the evidence of the *Skramstad* was too good to be true. The only other witness on behalf of the *Tai-cheong*, who had anything material to say as to this point was the first mate, and his evidence was only material as to what took place after the collision. He stated that in his opinion the *Perla* struck the *Tai-cheong* about at a right angle. If that was so I cannot help thinking, and I believe my assessors agreed with me, that the story told by the *Tai-cheong* as to her course is an impossible one. To account for the *Skramstad* getting so far to the southward as the *Tai-cheong* alleges, it was argued that she wanted to anchor off Wan Tsai. There was no evidence on this point, and I have already stated I do not believe she was there. The story for the *Skramstad* is that after getting through the Lyeemun Pass and getting to a spot north of Penguin Shoal she headed for a bright light at the Admiralty Dock at Kowloon. She then saw the green light of the *Tai-cheong* 1½ to 2 miles on her port bow (and probably some of those on board her saw the *Perla*'s lights, but for the purposes of this judgment I do not think it is necessary to go into that question). Shortly after the *Tai-cheong* shut out her green and showed her red light. The helm of the *Skramstad* was then slightly ported and the vessels approached red to red. Suddenly the *Tai-cheong* shut out her red light and showed her green. The helm of the *Skramstad* was put hard aport and her engines full speed astern, but the collision occurred. Such are the two stories, and having once arrived at the conclusion that the collision occurred somewhere about where the *Skramstad* says it did it is obvious that of the two suggested courses that spoken to by the *Skramstad* is the only possible one, and in this opinion I am supported by my assessors. On the evidence no other grounds of fault or default arise. The result, therefore, is that the *Tai-cheong* is solely to blame, and will be condemned in costs, and there will be the usual reference to the Registrar and merchants if necessary. I may mention that one of my assessors was of opinion that if the *Tai-cheong* had let go her anchor before the collision it would have minimised the force of the blow.

SHUN TAI CO., LD. v. THE SHIP "TUNG KONG."

Judgment was delivered in this suit, in which plaintiffs claimed \$3,500 for damages alleged to have been sustained by the *Hong-chau* by colliding with the defendant ship in the West River at the entrance of the Wangmoon Channel on 1st January.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, was counsel for the plaintiffs, instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors; the defendants were represented by Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse of Messrs. Dennys & Bowley, solicitors.

His Lordship, in delivering judgment, said—This is an action by the owners of the *Hong-chau* for damages occasioned between the *Hong-chau* and the *Tung-kong* which occurred on January 1, sometime before 10 p.m., in the West River near Crag Island. The case is a simple one but is somewhat peculiar in that each side alleges that the other boat was the overtaking one and therefore is to blame for the collision under Article 24 of the Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea. There is practically no dispute as to the damage done to the *Hong-chau*, and the only question is whether the *Tung-kong* overtook the *Hong-chau* and ran into her on her port side with her starboard bow, or whether the *Hong-chau* overtook the *Tung-kong* and collided with her port side against the starboard bow of the *Tung-kong*. To decide this question it is most important to find out which vessel started first, and the attention of the witnesses was primarily directed to that point. As a matter of fact, I am of opinion that the *Hong-chau* started a little before the *Tung-kong* and that seeing it was ebb tide she on backing round from her wharf did not go round to port. The story for the *Tung-kong* is that she got away first, and that after passing Lin Tai the *Hong-chau*, which was overtaking them on their starboard quarter, began to bore in on them and eventually



the *Tung-kong* got her stern on the mud (though her headway was never stopped) and that the *Hong-chau* keeping on collided with the *Tung-kong* as before described. On the other hand, the evidence for the *Hong-chau* is to the effect that the *Tung-kong* overtook the *Hong-chau* and tried to pass on the port side of the *Hong-chau*, but that finding herself in shallow water she sheered out to starboard and so collided. Now, which is the more probable story? To my mind there can be no doubt. Take the evidence of Captain Douglas, who was a witness for the *Tung-kong*. He stated—"The *Tung-kong* captain told me he did not know whether he had touched, but he got near ground and sheered over and touched the *Hong-chau*. The helmsman also of the *Tung-kong* never saw the red light of the *Hong-chau* before the collision, which of course he could not have done if the *Hong-chau*'s story is correct, but which he probably would have done in the other case. Again, the manoeuvres attributed to the *Hong-chau* by the *Tung-kong* are most improbable. Why should the *Hong-chau* keep on boring in to port and so getting into shallow water when she had deep water on her starboard side. After a full consideration of the evidence, I am of opinion that the *Tung-kong* was the overtaking vessel and improperly tried to pass the *Hong-chau* on her (the *Hong-chau*'s) port side, and, finding herself in trouble, sheered out and so occasioned the collision and is solely to blame and will be condemned in cost. There will be the usual reference to the Registrar and merchants if necessary. The Court adjourned.

Tuesday, 18th March.

#### IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### IMPENDING COURT CHANGES.

Before the regular proceedings of the Sessions were entered upon,

The Attorney-General (Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, K.C.) intimated that having regard to certain approaching changes in the constitution of the Court, he had asked two of his learned friends to assist him on this occasion. Mr. Slade would appear for the prosecution in the case in which a compradore's shroff of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was charged with theft and fraud; and Mr. Morgan Phillips would conduct the prosecution in the remaining cases appearing on the calendar.

#### BANK SHROFF'S DEFALCATIONS.

Wong Hoi Pang, until lately a compradore's shroff in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, was charged on five counts with having stolen and obtained by fraud various sums amounting to \$54,000, under circumstances which have already been made public through the proceedings at the Magistracy.

He pleaded guilty.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, conducted the prosecution. The simple facts of the case, he said, were that the prisoner was shroff in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and had access to the strong room where the coin and notes required for current purposes were lodged. When loans were granted by the Bank to Chinese the prisoner was the man responsible for the counting of the contents of the bags of gold which were handed in as security. On two occasions he gave his certificate that the bags contained 1,000 gold sovereigns each, whereas they contained only copper cents, and on two other occasions he pretended that the bags contained 200 more sovereigns than they did in fact contain. These frauds were not detected until the contents of the treasury were checked through by the cashier of the Bank.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law, who appeared on behalf of the prisoner, pointed out to his Lordship that there were certain strong reasons why the punishment to be inflicted in this case should be mitigated. It appeared from the depositions taken at the Magistracy that on 7th February of this year the cash in the treasury was checked, not because of any suspicion that there was anything wrong but in the ordinary course of business, and a shortage was then discovered. The matter was referred by Mr. E. H. Saunders, an employee of the

Bank, to the defendant, who gave an explanation which proved satisfactory; and the incident excited no suspicion against the defendant. But on 12th February the defendant voluntarily, apparently, wrote to the compradore confessing to defalcations and asking that a fresh check of the treasury might be taken. According to the compradore, that was the first intimation that the defendant had been doing what he was now charged with doing. The matter was discovered solely through his voluntary confession. He had not attempted to conceal anything from the Bank.

His Lordship—Had they never found out that they had lost the money?

Mr. Sharp said they had not, though undoubtedly they subsequently would have done. The Bank made a practice of checking the treasury every month. The defendant, he thought, might have offered several explanations if they had discovered the shortage. But he voluntarily confessed that he alone was responsible. The charge, he submitted, would have been very difficult, perhaps impossible, to prove but for the defendant's confession. This gold which was stolen had been deposited as security for loans to Chinese. The bags were each supposed to contain a certain amount and were labelled accordingly. It was perfectly clear that the bags might have been short when they were deposited, but defendant did not allege that they were. Furthermore, the evidence showed that others beside him had access to the bags and he might have suggested that one of those others had stolen this money or that some other person not named in the depositions had got hold of the keys and gained entrance to the safe. The defendant might have attempted to fix the guilt upon some particular person or he might have stated that though the money had been stolen and he was liable to the Bank in that amount he could not explain its loss. But he took none of those lines. He admitted frankly that he alone did it. This, his Lordship would no doubt remember, meant the professional ruin of the defendant, which in itself was a severe punishment, and what he would urge more strongly was that these defalcations were discovered solely owing to the defendant's confession.

On being asked whether he had anything to say on his own behalf, the prisoner stated that he had nothing in particular to say, except to ask that his Lordship would pass a merciful sentence.

His Lordship remarked that the prisoner had pleaded guilty, and that was the best thing he had done in this matter. His counsel had said all he could for him, and all he could say was that he had not added lying to theft. He was a man in a position of trust, and while punishment would fall more heavily upon him than upon another man, his Lordship must consider the community in general. He had seen in the papers, and presumed it was true, that an application was made to the Magistrate to deal with this case summarily. He thought the Magistrate exercised a very wise discretion in sending it up to the Sessions, because any punishment he could have inflicted would have been absolutely inadequate to the offence. The sentence of the Court was one year's hard labour on each count—five years in all.

#### UTTERING FORGED BANK-NOTES.

Tsi Mun was charged on four counts with uttering forged H. K. & S. B. C. \$10 notes and with being in possession of forged notes.

He pleaded guilty.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law, conducted the prosecution.

The prisoner stated through the interpreter that he bought the notes from a man for \$5.50 each, knowing they were forged, and on the understanding that if he could not use them he was to take them back to the seller. He found he could not get rid of them and took them back, but the other man would not refund the purchase money. He was afterwards arrested while attempting to sell the notes. He did not know where the notes originally came from.

His Lordship, in passing sentence, said there seemed to be a great many of this stock of forged notes about the place. These cases were coming up every month now. He was not the first man who had been up before on this charge. A man who had been up the previous month seemed to know a good deal about it. They would not have gone to the man from

whom they bought the notes without knowing that he was a man supposed to utter these notes. He would give this prisoner the same sentence as the last man got, and would advise him to give information to the police as to the source where these notes came from; probably they came from Canton. The sentence of the Court was seven years' hard labour on each of the first three counts, to run concurrent, and three years' hard labour on the fourth, also concurrent—seven years in all.

#### THEFT OF JEWELLERY.

Chun Chi was charged with the theft of jewellery—a pair of diamond ear-rings, a pair of gold bangles, a pair of diamond hair-pins, and a pair of pearl hair-pins, a diamond hair-press, and a pearl hair-press.

She pleaded not guilty and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law appeared on her behalf. Mr. T. Morgan Phillips conducted the prosecution.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. J. M. H. Meyer, T. Arnott, M. S. Lima, B. Saxon, F. T. Colson, W. Inglis, and A. V. Apcar.

Mr. Morgan Phillips, in opening the case, said that the accused was charged with larceny as bailee. She had been for some years hair-dresser to Chinese ladies in Hongkong and latterly seemed to have become involved in some loan transactions and to have converted herself into a sort of dealer in jewellery, having on various occasions approached Chinese ladies whom she knew and asked them to entrust her with jewellery for the purposes of sale to other people. On 6th January she went to a lady who lived at 86, Wellington Street and was closely associated with a wealthy compradore, and told her that she knew a person who would buy a pair of ear-rings and a hair-press which she understood this lady wished to dispose of. The lady handed over the valuables, stipulating for a price of \$1,500 for them, which price the defendant undertook to get. Up till about the 16th of that month the prosecutrix frequently saw the defendant and asked her for the money, but was always put off with some excuse. From the 16th to the 30th the defendant disappeared. On the latter date she turned up at the house of the complainant and on being pressed for the money confessed that she had pawned the jewellery. Upon enquiry being made at the pawn-shop, it was discovered that the valuables had been pledged on the very day that she received them from the prosecutrix. The other two counts on which the defendant was charged were somewhat similar in their attendant circumstances to the first. In the second case, the defendant got two articles of jewellery from another woman ostensibly to sell and in the third she obtained a loan of the valuables. All were recovered in the pawn-shop.

Evidence was then taken, and the Court afterwards adjourned.

Wednesday, 19th March.

#### IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

#### ALLEGED THEFTS OF JEWELLERY.

The hearing of evidence was resumed in the case in which Chan Chi, a Chinese woman, was charged with extensive jewellery thefts.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law, conducted the prosecution (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), and the prisoner was represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor).

At the conclusion of the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty on all three counts of the indictment.

A new jury having been empanelled, Chan Chi was put upon her trial on another charge of a similar nature, namely, three separate alleged thefts of jewellery.

Mr. Morgan Phillips, in opening the case, stated that the three complainants in this case were Chinese women. On 31st December last, the prisoner went to the house of the first prosecutrix and got from her a pair of jadestone bangles, valued at \$550, and a pair of pearls, valued at \$400, ostensibly to sell to some one who she said would pay a good price for them. Some days later, she also got for the same ostensible purpose a pair of



pearl ear-rings. She had always some excuse to offer when the complainant asked for the money, and latterly the valuables were found in a pawnshop. In the case of the two other counts of the indictment the circumstances were somewhat similar; in one instance she got possession of jewellery to the value of \$600 by saying that she could sell it for a good price, and in the other she obtained a diamond ring and other jewellery by pretending that she wanted a loan of them for a marriage. In both these cases, it was alleged, she appropriated the jewellery to her own use.

Evidence was afterwards taken, and the Court adjourned.

Thursday, 20th March.

#### IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

##### JEWELRY THEFTS.

The case was resumed in which Chan Chi, a Chinese woman, was charged on three counts with the theft of valuable jewelry, Mr. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law, conducting the prosecution, and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, appearing for the defendant.

The jury was as follows:—Messrs. J. McLaughlin, F. Gomez, T. F. da Silva Alonço, R. Walpole, J. E. Lee, R. Becker, and C. H. Rogge.

The jury found the prisoner guilty on all three counts.

His Lordship deferred sentence until the third charge against the woman should have been disposed of.

The new charge was to the effect that on 4th January she stole a pair of diamond ear-rings, on the 10th twelve diamonds, and on the 13th eight pearls—all from the same person.

A plea of not guilty was tendered.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. N. Inuzuka, W. Nagel, F. J. Ruepprecht, J. H. Jewitt, A. M. V. Schonemann, T. Christie and F. Lemm.

Mr. Morgan Phillips, in his opening statement, said that the complainant was a widow residing in Bridges Street. She entrusted the jewelry to the defendant for sale, but never got any money for it, and, after the defendant's arrest in connection with the previous charges, she recovered the valuables in a pawnshop.

Evidence having been adduced,

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

His Lordship then sentenced the prisoner to four and a half years' hard labour for the thefts of which she had been found guilty under the previous indictment.

### HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The following is the report of the General Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, for the year ending 31st December, 1901, presented to the members at the annual meeting, held this afternoon at 3 p.m.:

During the past year a number of important questions have come up for consideration, and satisfactory progress has been made or settlement effected in many cases. The commercial event of the year, however, was the signature of the Protocol between China and the Treaty Powers on the 7th September, 1901, by which it was decided to place the Import Tariff on an effective basis of 5 per cent.

##### TARIFF REVISION.

A mass of correspondence has passed on this question; the Committee being most anxious that the negotiations on the subject should not be closed until an opportunity had been afforded to the Chamber of expressing its views thereon. The signature of the Protocol on the 7th September with the information that a new temporary Tariff was to come into force two months later gave cause for apprehension lest the revision should be too suddenly completed. The announcement of the appointment of Sir James Lyle Mackay, as Special Commissioner to negotiate the details of the new

Tariff was, therefore, hailed with satisfaction, and soon after his arrival in Hongkong in November, a Memorandum was presented to the Commissioner and verbal representations made, which have since been supplemented by letter, all of which have received from him most careful, prompt, and courteous attention, and the Committee hope that the best results will follow from the Commissioner's labours.

##### PREFERENTIAL DUTIES.

Among the few stipulations which could in any sense constitute a set-off against the great concession made to China in the practical doubling of the Import Tariff, was one to the effect that the Chinese Native Customs should in future be collected at Treaty Ports by the Imperial Maritime Customs. This would, it was hoped, bring to a termination the practice by the Hoppo (or superintendent) of Native Customs at Canton charging lower duties on junk-borne cargo to the detriment of steamers running on the rivers in the Two Kwang. The order for the transfer of these establishments to the Imperial Maritime Customs was duly given, but met with no response at Canton, where preferential duties in favour of native craft still continued. This fact was brought to the notice of the Committee, who laid it before His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking, by whom the question was vigorously taken up, and definite instructions were sent to Canton to compel the Hoppo to make the transfer. This was done on the 19th February, and there is every reason to hope that the preferential duties levied will soon cease to exist.

##### THE REGULATION OF SAILING CRAFT IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

Consequent upon the number of accidents occurring in the harbour and at the entrances thereto owing to junks and other native craft crossing the bows of steamers entering or leaving port, representations were made to the local Government on the subject, suggesting that, to prevent such disasters, the responsibility of keeping out of the way of in-coming or out-going vessels should be thrown on the small native craft. The Government thereupon asked for particulars of such disasters, which were supplied, and fresh emphasis laid on the necessity for some steps being taken to control the native craft, but after two months' consideration the Chamber was informed that the Governor was not prepared to make any change in the existing regulations.

##### THE PUBLICATION OF QUARANTINE NOTICES.

Some further correspondence has passed on this subject, and the attention of the Government drawn to the comprehensive means adopted by the Burma authorities to give the widest possible publicity to quarantine intimations, which seem to be more effective than those taken either in Hongkong or Singapore.

##### DISINFECTION AND FUMIGATION OF CHINESE EMIGRANTS AND THEIR LUGGAGE.

In February last the Chamber, moved thereto by representations from the shipping firms, addressed a letter to the Government calling attention to the establishment in this port of a Fumigating and Disinfecting Bureau, under European supervision, to comply with the requirements of the United States Government in regard to emigrants, and suggesting that in view of the enormous loss sustained by the shipping interest by the prolonged suspension of emigration, the Government of the Straits Settlements be communicated with to ascertain whether the precautions taken by the use of the above Bureau would remove the necessity for quarantine in case of an outbreak of plague here. To this a reply was received to the effect that a copy of the Chamber's letter was despatched to the Colonial Secretary at Singapore enquiring whether his Government would consent to the proposal made by the Chamber. The answer to this was, in due course, submitted to the Chamber, it being to the effect that immigrants would, if the measures suggested were carried out in Hongkong under Government supervision, be allowed to disembark at the Quarantine Station, Singapore, there to remain

until the expiration of ten days from date of departure from Hongkong, the ship in the meantime being granted pratique. Unfortunately, however, owing to the severity of the epidemic last year, the Straits authorities became so alarmed, that they prohibited immigration altogether for a time.

##### THE PROPOSED RE-SURVEY OF EASTERN SEAS.

Further communications on this subject have passed between the Admiralty, the Foreign Office, and the London Chamber of Commerce, the gist of which has been forwarded by the latter body to this Chamber. The Lords of the Admiralty, while not denying that many undiscovered rocks may exist in harbours and along the coast of China, do not hold it to be the duty of British surveying vessels to examine foreign coasts so minutely as to render the detection of every danger a matter of absolute certainty, but state that at the present time one of His Majesty's surveying vessels is employed on the China Station in charting those areas which require immediate attention, and they consider the action taken by the Chamber in offering rewards for the discovery of pinnacle rocks the surest way of obtaining knowledge of those dangers. The Chamber, in reply, expressed satisfaction at the assurances that a surveying vessel was now employed in these seas and that the action taken in offering rewards for information tending to the discovery of hidden dangers had met the approval of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

##### THE SANITATION OF THE COLONY.

In June last, during the severe epidemic of bubonic plague then raging in the Colony, your Committee conceived it to be their duty, in view of the enormous loss entailed by the suspension of Chinese emigration, the imposition of quarantine at neighbouring ports, the reduction of imports and exports, and the diversion and restriction of trade generally, to address the Government on the subject, to point out how, in their opinion, the Government had made itself largely responsible for the sad state of things then prevailing, and to suggest that the execution of the sanitary measures which had been recommended by the Sanitary authorities should be promptly carried out without fear of expense, or if any doubt as to the practicability or expediency of such measures were entertained they should be referred at once to a higher authority for decision. The representations of the Committee were hardly received by the Government in the spirit they were intended, the subject having only reluctantly been taken up by them, and from a sense of their duty as guardians of the commercial interests of the port. The letter served, however, to direct public attention to the question, resulting in a petition being addressed by the ratepayers to the Secretary of State for the Colonies praying that a Commission of sanitary experts should be sent to enquire into the whole question of the sanitation of the Colony, while it at the same time roused the Government to more vigorous action in the matter. Consequent on the stir thus raised, two sanitary experts were deputed by the Colonial Office to proceed to Hongkong and investigate the sanitary condition of the Colony. One of these gentlemen, Dr. Simpson, has now been some time in Hongkong diligently making inquiries and collecting information, and Mr. Osbert Chadwick, the well-known sanitary engineer, has since arrived.

##### MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PASSENGERS.

The serious inconvenience and possible heavy loss to which vessels were liable in Hongkong through the Health Officer of the Port not being able to give his whole time to this work in consequence by being allowed private practice, was made conspicuously apparent in April last, when the mail steamers *Coromandel* and *Ballaarat* were detained for hours before the Health Officer arrived on board, and the former vessel nearly failed to make her time at Shanghai through the delay. The matter was brought to the attention of the Chamber, and strong representations were made to the Government, urging the necessity not only for the Health Officer to



devote his whole time to this duty, but also for the appointment of an assistant. It was pointed out that though the tonnage of vessels entering and clearing from this port had more than doubled during the past twenty years, the Health Officer was still expected to perform the same duties while he was also still permitted private practice. The cogency of these representations was promptly recognised by His Excellency the Governor, who forwarded recommendations to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the appointment of a Second Health Officer of the Port and that the existing incumbent of the post be allowed to retain his private practice only on condition that, when himself so engaged, he should place at the disposal of the Government another officer as his substitute, such officer not to be allowed to take private practice. A further recommendation made by the Chamber to the effect that the Second Health Officer should hold a diploma certifying that he is thoroughly competent to deal with disinfection, segregation, and all questions connected with quarantine regulations, was also favourably received by the Government.

#### QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS.

The losses suffered of late years in consequence of the imposition of quarantine against arrivals from this port were undiminished last year. The outbreak of plague was not only disastrous in its mortality but also by reason of the prolonged interference caused by it to the passenger trade. Hongkong was declared infected on the 25th March, and it was not until the 12th October that this Chamber was notified by Government that the port was free from plague in accordance with the terms of the Venice Convention.

Its freedom from these restrictions has unfortunately proved short-lived, for on the 24th January in the present year the Netherlands Indian Government, hearing that some cases of plague had broken out in one district of the city of Victoria, temporarily declared the port infected and subjected vessels arriving therefrom to ten days' quarantine.

#### PROHIBITION OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

In May last, the measures adopted at Singapore to avert the introduction of bubonic plague into the Straits Settlements took the form of a prohibition against Chinese coolie immigration by vessels sailing from Hongkong after the 29th of that month. As this interdict meant the absolute suspension of the passenger traffic between this Colony and the Straits, an appeal was made without loss of time to the local Government, asking them to represent the circumstances to the Secretary of State for the Colonies with a view to get the prohibition rescinded. To this suggestion, His Excellency the Governor responded by first telegraphing to the Straits Settlements Government and subsequently to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject, but it was not until August that the prohibition was removed and quarantine only enforced. It is to be hoped that such drastic measures will not again be resorted to if plague should once more become epidemic here.

#### DIFFICULTY AND COST OF PROCURING BALLAST.

Representations having been made to the Chamber as to the increasing difficulty and enhanced cost of procuring sand or stone ballast by vessels, a letter was addressed to Government on the subject in July last, in which the delays made by the Public Works Department in granting permits and the unsuitable localities to which vessels were directed to procure the ballast were pointed out. In reply, it was stated that instructions had been given to avoid such delay in future, and that the question of quarrying for ballast was now engaging attention.

#### REGISTRATION OF PARTNERSHIPS IN CHINESE FIRMS.

An application for information on this subject having been received in July from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, a promise was given to forward the report of the Committee then sitting to enquire into the desirability or otherwise of registration when issued, and in October this was done.

The report of the Registration Committee was adverse to the proposal to register partnerships, the main difficulty being the virtual impossibility of obtaining the true names of the partners. The cost of maintaining such a department as would be required for the purpose of registering and the contingent likelihood that such legislation would tend to drive capital from the Colony also had weight with the Committee when forming their decision.

#### THE TRADE IN NAPHTHA.

Early in the year the Government addressed an inquiry to the Chamber asking whether the trade in naphtha or gasoline was likely to assume large proportions in this Colony. A reply was returned to the effect that it was difficult to estimate what dimensions this trade might attain, but it was possible a considerable demand would spring up in time if the regulations as to storage were not made too stringent.

#### AMENDMENT OF THE MERCHANT SHIPPING CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE.

A Bill having been introduced into the Legislative Council to amend the Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1899, in September, a petition was presented to the Governor and sent to the Chamber by several native steamboat companies trading on the West River asking that more favourable conditions should be accorded to the boats running on that waterway, as to the number of passengers permitted them, than were proposed by the Bill, and begging the Chamber to support it. The Committee did not see their way to support this petition, as they thought these boats should not enjoy more favourable conditions than those extended to the regular river steamers. With regard to certain clauses in the Quarantine Regulations, they suggested an amendment having for its object to relieve the steamship owners of the responsibility for the maintenance of passengers by vessels quarantined. This amendment was moved by the Chamber's Representative, but was not accepted by the Legislative Council. A petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies was thereupon drawn up by the shipping firms and agencies praying that this section of the Ordinance might be disallowed, and forwarded by the Chamber with strong representations in support thereof to the Governor for transmission to Downing Street. His Excellency undertook to forward the petition, but so far no reply has been received from the Secretary of State.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

The amendments made to the Bankruptcy Law in 1901 having been submitted to Mr. Muir Mackenzie, legal adviser of the Board of Trade, certain points were raised by him and forwarded for consideration to the Colonial Government, who, in turn, referred them to your Committee, who returned an opinion decidedly in favour of Mr. Mackenzie's suggestions. These suggestions were in the direction of widening the scope of the meaning of the term "debtor" and allowing adjudication to be made against a firm in the firm-name so as to bind all the joint and separate property of the partners in the firm although not individually named in the order of adjudication.

#### THE PROPOSED ASHES MONOPOLY.

The proposal to farm out the monopoly of the collection of ashes from vessels in the Harbour made in May, 1900, was supposed to have been abandoned in deference to the strong opinion expressed against it when the Chamber was consulted, but in December last, to the surprise of the Committee, the regulations and conditions under which the monopoly was to be governed appeared in the pages of the *Government Gazette* as the first intimation of the intention of the Government to revive the scheme. A remonstrance was at once addressed to the Government, and subsequently further correspondence ensued, a strong protest being entered against the creation of a Chinese monopoly, which, in the opinion of the Committee, is wrong in principle and almost certain to prove prolific of abuses.

#### PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION AT CORK.

Copies of a despatch from the Colonial

Office enclosing copy of a letter received from the department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland inviting the Colonies to participate in an Exhibition for the purpose of stimulating the growth and improvement of manufacturing, agricultural, and other industries and handicrafts throughout Ireland, proposed to be opened at Cork in May, 1902, having been transmitted to the Chamber by the local Government with a request for an opinion on the subject, the Committee, while heartily sympathising with and wishing success to the enterprise, could not recommend any actual participation therein.

#### PROJECTED WORLD'S FAIR AT S. LOUIS, U.S.A.

To an invitation through the United States Consul-General to take part in this Exposition the Committee had to return a similar answer to that given with regard to the Cork Exhibition, but recommended that the Registrar-General be asked to represent to the Chinese manufacturers of silverware, ivory goods, and carved blackwood the advantages likely to attend such exhibits.

#### THE PACIFIC CABLE.

In view of the project for connecting Canada with the Australian Colonies by a cable across the Pacific now in progress, the Ottawa Board of Trade have initiated an agitation for the direct connection of all British possessions throughout the world by State-owned telegraph cables under the control of the Post Office, and a circular letter from this body was received in August asking for the co-operation of the Chamber in the movement to nationalise the telegraph system, by land and sea, of the whole Empire. In acknowledging receipt of this despatch, the Committee, while wishing the movement success as being calculated to reduce telegraph rates, intimated that the Chamber, being a cosmopolitan one, could not take any definite action in the direction of securing State-owned telegraphs of an Imperial Post Cable service.

#### CABLE RATES.

Owing to the postponement of the Telegraph Conference, no reduction in the tariff between Europe and the Far East has yet been secured, but the contemplated reduction in the rate from Europe (Russia and Turkey excepted) to India to 2s. 6d. per word and to Ceylon of a similar rate with 10 centimes additional, encourages the hope that concessions may be made to the Far East later on.

#### THE BURMA-SHAN-CHINA RAILWAY.

Very recently a letter from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, forwarding copy of a memorial addressed to the Secretary of State for India on the above subject, was received with a request that this Chamber would support it by making similar representations to His Britannic Majesty's Government. Your Committee however, do not regard this scheme as coming within the domain of practical politics, the country through which the projected lines are designed to pass being exceptionally mountainous and difficult, rendering the work extremely costly, while the markets to be opened up are poor, the population scanty, and the prospects of passenger traffic small. A reply was given, therefore, to the effect that the Committee were not satisfied that the results would justify the very heavy outlay that would be entailed by the work, and calling the attention of the Liverpool Chamber to the speeches of the Viceroy of India on this scheme during his recent tour in Burma.

#### PROPOSED REGISTRATION OF PRIVATE CHAIR COOLIES IN HONGKONG.

Some months back, His Excellency the Governor, moved thereto by numerous complaints as to the difficulty of obtaining and, when obtained, of controlling private chair and jinricksha coolies, appointed a Commission, consisting of Messrs. T. Sercombe Smith, R. C. Wilcox, and F. J. Badeley, to enquire into and report upon the question, with a view to recommend legislation if found necessary. The Commission, after holding 14 meetings and examining 30 witnesses, sent in their report, strongly recommending registration of the coolies with photographs attached to the registration tickets for the purpose of identification. A copy of this report was sent to the Chamber, but no opinion was asked for. The recommendations of the Commission have not been adopted.



## THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The only changes in the Committee during the past year were the resignation of the Hon. J. J. Keswick, in May last, when the Hon. J. J. Bell Irving was invited to fill the vacancy, and the resignation of Mr. A. M. Marshall, who was succeeded by Mr. H. A. Ritchie, who resigned the seat on the 8th November, and was in turn succeeded in December by Mr. E. A. Hewett.

## MEMBERS.

The roll of Members has undergone more changes than usual during the past twelve months. The following have resigned or deceased:—The Belgian Trading Company, Mr. J. J. Francois, K.C., Messrs. Geo. R. Stevens & Co., Messrs. Jordan and Joseph, Mr. E. Robinson, Mr. R. C. Wilcox, Wy Shing, and the Bank of China and Japan, Limited. The following have been admitted to membership, subject to confirmation at the annual meeting:—Hamburg-Amerika Linie, Messrs. E. Pabaney & Co., the China Export, Import and Bank Co., Mr. Ellis Kadoorie, Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, Mr. S. Sassoon, Mr. C. D. Gorham, the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, the Tai Shing Paper Manufacturing Company, Limited, and the Russo-Chinese Bank.

## THE SECRETARY.

Mr. R. C. Wilcox, who has held this post for the past six years, has tendered his resignation owing to the demands made on his time by his own business.

## FINANCE.

The accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1901, have been audited by Messrs. M. Stewart and F. Henderson. The balance at debit of the Chamber, after transferring \$1,618.06 to Reserve Fund, was \$49.11. The Reserve Fund stood at \$14,000, of which amount \$12,000 is on deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and \$2,000 is invested in Debentures.

The Pinnacle Rock Fund has been further increased by the accruing interest, and now amounts to \$3,893.13.

## FOOTBALL.

## CHALLENGE SHIELD FINAL.

If the attendance of spectators at the semi-final for the Shield was a record one, a term has yet to be invented to describe the turn-out to witness the final on the 15th inst. between "A" Company of the Fusiliers and the team of H.M.S. *Glory*. Every seat in the stand was occupied, and many members had to seek places for themselves amongst the eager thousands who lined the ropes. The weather conditions were similar to those prevailing at the semi-final—a hot sun, whose glare would place at a disadvantage the team which lost the spin of the coin and had to play facing it. The *Glory* were in this unenviable position when they met the Club in the semi-final two weeks ago, but luck favoured them on Saturday, and they defended the west goal, playing with their backs to the sun. Both teams were cheered as they took the field, and their entrance afforded an opportunity of comparing the men, when it was seen that the advantage of weight lay very much with the soldiers. The players lined up as follows:—

"A" Company:—Goal—Rhodes, backs—Bellas and Phillips; half-backs—Deegan, Bevan, and Croft; forwards—Gregory, Andrews, Stevens, Hunt, and Jones.

*Glory*:—Goal—Morgan; backs—Urquhart and Lieut. Sherbrooke; half-backs—Watson, Lane (capt.), and Wade; forwards—Dowson, Hensford, Milford, Moore, and Cottell.

Referee—Mr. Cooke, H.M.S. *Terrible*.

## THE GAME.

"A" Company kicked off, and a throw-in followed in favour of the *Glory* from mid-field play. A foul against "A" Company was not improved by the sailors, who sent past, but a second free kick for a foul shy brought the *Glory* dangerously near Rhodes, who saved in style by picking up the ball and kicking it clear. "A" Company's forwards then manoeuvred the leather down the field, but got a bye only, a second and third falling to them shortly afterwards in quick succession. Milford relieved by a plucky run up the wing, but Phillips returned smartly, although this effort was to a certain extent neutralised by Gregory getting off-side and giving away a

free kick, which, however, was not improved. The *Glory* were pressing determinedly, not even being turned by a free kick which Watson gave away for a foul charge. Gregory, however, proved the saviour for his side, and he took the leather clear away, but lost it to Watson, who again in the next few seconds gave away a free kick through his habit of foul charging. Continuing their aggressive play, the *Glory* worked their way down the field, and Moore centred. Hensford was slow in taking up the pass, and when he sent the leather over to Milford the latter had a crowded goal to face; in the circumstances the fact that he failed to find the net was not to be wondered at. "A" Company, plucking up in wonderful style, paid Morgan a visit. Exciting play followed, and at one stage of the game Cottell headed in on the touch-line to keep the ball in play. Gregory took possession, and instantly passed to Andrews, who, without waiting to steady himself, put a terrific shot into the net. "Fast and furious" is a hackneyism, but it best describes the game, that followed. The *Glory*, smarting under their reverse, pressed vigorously, but spoiled their chances by one or two free kicks which they gave away in their eagerness to equalise. With teams whose one idea was to score, scientific play was out of the question, but what the game lacked in finesse was more than compensated for in the extreme vigour with which it was prosecuted. The *Glory*'s forwards played splendidly, but the stonewall nature of "A" Company's defences held them completely in check. Had the Fusiliers' forwards been always as reliable, a second goal would have fallen to their credit, for Stevens muffed, though not unpardonably, a fine chance to score, and sent the leather over the goal-line. "A" Company got two corners, but converted neither, and when half-time came the score still stood:—

"A" Company, 1; *Glory*, 0.

The *Glory* made the first incursion on the resumption of play, but Dowson shot high over the bar. A foul against the *Glory* saw naval territory in a state of siege but Sherbrooke relieved nicely. Getting down the field, Dowson took up a neat pass which Deegan unsuccessfully tried to intercept, and, although he again sent the ball to the outside of the post, he was appreciably nearer than last time. "A" Company now put a different phase on matters, and Morgan had a hot time of it. Gregory sent in a beautiful cross shot, which Stevens instantly accounted for by sending the leather whizzing into the net. As with the first, Morgan had no possible chance of saving. The goal was marked by a fine display of sarcasm on the part of "A" Company's supporters, who derisively chanted the "war-song" so often heard when things are progressing in favour of the *Glory*. Hunt received a judicious pass from Gregory, but this time got off-side and gave away one of the finest chances of the entire game; half a minute later he topped the net from another pass. The game was stopped for a little time through the temporary disablement of Cottell, whose head collided with that of Deegan. When the ball was again set in motion Andrews gave a splendid display. Capturing the leather in centre, his long strides easily placed him out of danger from the defences, whom he baffled cleverly; the sequel, however, was inglorious, for with an absolutely open goal he failed to score. Rhodes had the hottest time of the game when Cottell, accepting a pass from Milford, tried to find the net. The custodian stopped the ball, but dropped it by accident, and with his fingers just succeeded in tipping it from Cottell's feet as the latter prepared to shoot. The way in which Rhodes some moments later cleared a magnificent shot from Moore fully proved his value as a goal-keeper. Morgan, at the other end of the field, was just as clever in negotiating two dangerous shots from Gregory. "A" Company got a foul well up in *Glory*'s territory, and from this they secured their third goal, Andrews having no difficulty in popping the leather into the net. With only a matter of ten minutes to go, it appeared a hopeless game for the *Glory*, but they did not lose heart, and Milford set a splendid example of encouragement. Working like a nigger, he took his line of forwards up, and had the satisfaction of seeing Moore outwit Rhodes and score. The latter tried pluckily to save, but the ball was

over the line when he stopped it. A couple of minutes from time the naval lads made another overwhelming rush, and notched their second point during a most exciting scrimmage at goal. Play was in Fusilier territory when the whistle sounded.

Result:—"A" Company, 3; *Glory*, 2.

## PRESENTATION OF SHIELD AND BADGES.

After the match Mrs. Stewart Lockhart, wife of the Colonial Secretary, presented the Shield and gold badges to the winning team, who were photographed in front of the stand. The captain of the eleven presented a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Stewart Lockhart in recognition of her services, cheers also being given for the lady, followed by three more and a "tiger," for the winning and losing teams.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, in a short speech, congratulated "A" Company on the hard-fought victory they had won, and expressed condolence for the losers, who, with more time at their disposal, might have put a different face on matters. The game had been an excellent one, and for that all who had witnessed it were indebted. After referring in flattering terms to Mr. F. Browne, who, as secretary of the Hongkong Football Club, has done much to promote this excellent form of sport in the Colony, the speaker said that, while it was difficult to make selections from amongst players who had all done splendidly, he had been requested to specially mention six members of "A" Company's team—Rhodes, Bevan, Stevens, Andrews, Gregory, and Hunt. The band of the Fusiliers, he concluded, was well represented in the team, and he wondered whether the profession contributed to long-windedness on the part of its members. (Laughter and applause.)

## NOTES ON THE GAME.

"A" Company were, if anything, the favourites during the match. The "chiming-bells" chant of the *Glory* supporters was remarkable by its absence during most of the game. It was heard, however, when the naval lads got in their first goal, but before that "A" Company's backers gave a sarcastic rendering of it. On the whole "A" Co. was too heavy and too fast for the trickier naval team.

The placing of the *Glory*'s halves was very poor during the first half. They paid little attention to the feeding of the wings.

In the second half Deegan evinced a reprehensible tendency to use his weight. His kicking, too, was wild at times.

Ten minutes or so from time the *Glory* played up marvellously, and got two goals in five minutes. With other ten minutes' play might have come the equaliser, for "A" Company's halves crumpled up completely before the succession of attacks by the *Glory* forwards. The latter held themselves in too long; the spurts should have come immediately after the interval.

Milford is a dashing little, centre-forward, and undoubtedly was the best man on the field. He and his partners in the forward line were too fond of short passing, however, which in a game like the above did not pay.

Andrews made a fine display when he took the ball up from centre, but he fluked startlingly five yards from goal.

The teams played three-quarters of an hour each way.

Amongst those in the stand were H.E. the Acting Governor and Lady Gascoigne.

A very good game was that on the 20th inst. between the Hongkong Football Club and the Navy, under Rugby rules. The latter showed slightly to advantage in passing, but had nothing to boast of otherwise. There were few outstanding features in the play, although in the second half St. Clair for the Navy secured a fine try, which James converted. The Club thereafter played to equalise, and had hard luck in not scoring from a drop kick at close quarters. The fortunes of the day lay with the Navy, who won by nine points to nil, Sherbrooke scoring a drop-goal just before time.

The Association match between the Club's "A" team and the officers of the *Goliath* did not come off.

The present football season will close on Saturday, 29th March. On that day will be played the annual fixture of Scotland v. The World.



The eighth annual dinner of the Hongkong Football Club will be held on Saturday, 5th April, at eight o'clock. During the evening badges and caps will be presented to those members of the Association and Rugby teams who on account of their specially useful play have been selected for these distinctions by the committee.

### CRICKET.

#### H.K.C.C. v. CRUISERS' XI.

This match on the 15th inst. in an easy victory by 142 runs for the Club, who declared their innings closed at 265 for 4 wickets and dismissed the naval men for 123. By kind permission of the Admiral and the Officers of the Fleet the massed bands of the Navy played during the game. Scores and analysis:—

| H.K.C.C.                                |     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|
| Capt. Ratcliffe, R.E., b Good           | 45  |
| Capt. Kriekenbeek, B.I., not out        | 100 |
| W. Dixon, c and b Onslow                | 96  |
| F. C. France-Hayhurst, R.W.F., b Onslow | 20  |
| Major Wynne, R.A., run out              | 0   |
| A. G. Ward,                             |     |
| Capt. Cadogan, R.W.F.                   |     |
| Capt. Rotherham, R.W.F.                 |     |
| Capt. Waymouth, R.A.                    |     |
| —Edmundson, R.A.                        |     |
| —Venables, R.W.F.                       |     |
| Extras                                  | 3   |
| Total (4 wickets: innings declared)     | 265 |

| CRUISERS.                         |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| McNeil, c Ward, b Hayhurst        | 1   |
| Foley, b Dixon                    | 14  |
| Rev. E. H. Good, b Hayhurst       | 6   |
| Carter, b Hayhurst                | 3   |
| Raymond, not out                  | 44  |
| Goldsmith, b Dixon                | 21  |
| Miller, c Kriekenbeek, b Hayhurst | 4   |
| Onslow, b Dixon                   | 8   |
| Knight, b Hayhurst                | 17  |
| Hughes-Onslow, b Hayhurst         | 0   |
| Mansell, b Hayhurst               | 0   |
| Extras                            | 2   |
| Total                             | 123 |

#### BOWLING ANALYSIS.

| H.K.C.C.  | O. | M. | R. | W. |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| Carter    | 14 | 3  | 64 | —  |
| Raymond   | 8  | —  | 36 | —  |
| Onslow    | 12 | —  | 57 | 3  |
| Good      | 10 | —  | 69 | 1  |
| Knight    | 2  | —  | 31 | —  |
| CRUISERS. | O. | M. | R. | W. |
| Hayhurst  | 12 | 1  | 52 | 7  |
| Dixon     | 8  | —  | 51 | 3  |
| Waymouth  | 4  | —  | 15 | —  |

#### PARSEE C.C. v. H.M.S. "TAMAR."

This match was played on the Naval Ground at the Happy Valley on Saturday last, and ended in a victory for the Parsees. Scores:—

| PARSEE C.C.                              |    |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| S. H. Commissariat, c Hill, b Morrison   | 2  |
| R. B. Cooper, c Ayres, b Boyce           | 3  |
| R. Pestonji, l.b.w., b Boyce             | 11 |
| M. J. Doctor, run out                    | 11 |
| F. E. Ebrahim (sub.), l.b.w., b Morrison | 0  |
| C. B. Movrawala, b Morrison              | 0  |
| D. R. Captain, c Morrison, b Fawcett     | 39 |
| B. D. Tata, b Fawcett                    | 4  |
| J. M. Master, c Boyce, b Morrison        | 0  |
| B. P. Tavarra, b Boyce                   | 0  |
| A. B. Avasia, not out                    | 6  |
| Extras                                   | 12 |
| Total                                    | 88 |
| H.M.S. "TAMAR."                          |    |
| Fawcett, c Commissariat, b Pestonji      | 3  |
| Boyce, c Commissariat, b Pestonji        | 12 |
| C. A. Ormsby, b Doctor                   | 0  |
| Hill, b Doctor                           | 0  |
| Cole, c Tata, b Doctor                   | 5  |
| Morrison, run out                        | 0  |
| Mason, b Pestonji                        | 8  |
| J. H. Varcoe, c and b Doctor             | 1  |
| Coader, c Ebrahim, b Pestonji            | 0  |
| Paul, not out                            | 0  |
| A. Henwood, retired                      | 0  |
| Extras                                   | 3  |
| Total                                    | 29 |

It is reported from Peking that H.E. Wang Chih-ch'un, who was transferred to Peking from the Governorship of Anhwei about three months ago, is soon to be appointed Minister to Russia, vice the lately-deceased Yang Ju. Wang Chih-ch'un has been to Russia twice, first as First Secretary of the Chinese Legation and *Chargé d'Affaires* at St. Petersburg and second as Special Ambassador, and moreover he has the reputation of being a Russophil.

### HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

#### "C" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The monthly shoot of the above unit was held at Tai-hang on the 16th instant, when the "Gubbay" and Aggregate Cups were fired for. This was the last shoot in the "Gubbay" competition, and it resulted in a win for Sergeant Sherwin with a score of 104, the previous best score for the year being 102. Scores as under:—

| Names.         | 200 | 400 | 500 | Aggregate Handicap | Aggregate Total |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|-----------------|
| Sergt. Sherwin | 28  | 34  | 28  | 5                  | 95              |
| Corp Gloyne    | 30  | 24  | 27  | 17                 | 98 *            |
| Br. Evans      | 30  | 21  | 21  | 25                 | 97 *            |
| Corp. Berkley  | 23  | 27  | 21  | 25                 | 96 *            |
| Gr. Marshall   | 26  | 24  | 18  | 25                 | 93              |
| Lt. Lammert    | 30  | 29  | 30  | Sc.                | 89              |

\* Spoken winners.

### BOWLING.

The first half of the bowling match between the Hongkong and German Clubs for the Challenge Shield, which the German Club has already won twice in succession, was duly completed on the 15th inst., and as a result the Hongkong Club was 32 pins to the good. The match was played simultaneously on the alleys of the two Clubs, one half of each team playing away from home. Both teams had been training for the encounter and the interest displayed was very marked. The start at the German Club was sensational, Gale for the British team and Müller for the German both making double after double. Gale broke down on his last ball, leaving 3 pins up, but Müller kept on and reached the coveted 300 amid loud applause. Gerrard followed Gale with an useful 246, while Vollbrecht for the homesters made 225. The Hongkong Club men went all to pieces on No. 4 alley, only scoring 693 to the Germans' 818, and on the arrival of the scores from the Hongkong Club it was found that their opponents had the serviceable lead of 381. On both sets of alleys, however, the British representatives now laid themselves out to reduce the deficit, and with the aid of a 258 from Gale, a splendid roll of 256 from Hinds on the H.K.C. No. 2 alley, and a 249 from Gerrard on the G.C. No. 1 alley, Hooper's 228 and Bonnar's 244, overhauled the Germans, and at the conclusion of the day's play had the above reported lead of 32 pins. Müller's fine 980 was the best score of the evening. The best individual contributions were:—At the Hongkong Club, Hinds 256 (No. 2 alley), Hooper 228 (No. 2), Bonnar 224 (No. 1), Thiessen 222 (No. 1), and Wacker 207 (No. 2); At the German Club, Müller 300 (No. 2), Gale 297 (No. 3) and 258 (No. 1), Engel 279 (No. 1), Gerrard 249 (No. 1) and 246 (No. 3), Vollbrecht 243 (No. 1), and Walker 237 (No. 1). First day's scores:—

#### CLUB GERMANIA.

| At Club Germania     |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| F. Müller            | 980   |
| F. Vollbrecht        | 901   |
| G. Engel             | 81    |
| W. O. E. Spalekhaver | 878   |
| Total                | 3,650 |

#### At Hongkong Club.

| At Hongkong Club. |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| F. G. Groning     | 711   |
| A. Rombach        | 705   |
| J. Wacker         | 700   |
| A. Thiessen       | 681   |
| Total             | 2,797 |
| Total             | 6,447 |

#### HONGKONG CLUB.

| At Club Germania   |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| C. H. Gale         | 977   |
| R. J. Gerrard      | 869   |
| W. B. Walker       | 833   |
| Capt. Warren, R.A. | 795   |
| Total              | 3,474 |

#### At Hongkong Club.

| At Hongkong Club. |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| J. Hooper         | 805   |
| E. H. Hinds       | 790   |
| J. W. C. Bonnar   | 742   |
| F. Maitland       | 668   |
| Total             | 3,005 |
| Total             | 6,479 |

The match ended on the 17th inst. in favour of the Hongkong Club by 258 pins. On Saturday's play the Hongkong Club had a lead of 32, which they managed to increase on the 17th inst. by 226. Had the German Club won they would have taken the Challenge Shield outright, so that this match gives the competition a new start, with one up to the British. The scores are subjoined:—

#### HONGKONG CLUB.

##### At Hongkong Club.

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| C. H. Gale         | 816   |
| Capt. Warren, R.A. | 796   |
| R. J. Gerrard      | 751   |
| W. B. Walker       | 740   |
| Total              | 3,103 |

##### At Club Germania.

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| J. Hooper       | 902   |
| E. H. Hinds     | 886   |
| F. Maitland     | 870   |
| J. W. C. Bonnar | 841   |
| Total           | 3,499 |

6,602

#### CLUB GERMANIA.

##### At Hongkong Club.

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| W. O. E. Spalekhaver | 731   |
| F. Vollbrecht        | 691   |
| F. Müller            | 663   |
| G. Engel             | 657   |
| Total                | 2,742 |

##### At Club Germania.

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| A. Thiessen   | 974   |
| A. Rombach    | 963   |
| F. G. Groning | 867   |
| J. Wacker     | 830   |
| Total         | 3,634 |

6,376

The best aggregates during the match were:—Gale, 1,793; Hooper, 1,707; Hinds, 1,676; and Rombach, 1,668.

This was the fourth match for the third challenge shield. The Hongkong Club won the shield once, in 1899, by 121 points, the German Club in the following year by 374 points and again last year by 145 points. In all the matches the Clubs have won seven each. The following is the record for the present shield:—

#### Match No. 12—(1899).

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| Hongkong Club | 12,077 |
| Club Germania | 11,956 |

#### Majority for Hongkong Club

121

#### Match No. 13—(1900).

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| Club Germania | 12,009 |
| Hongkong Club | 11,635 |

#### Majority for Club Germania

374

#### Match No. 14 (1901).

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| Club Germania | 12,667 |
| Hongkong Club | 11,522 |

#### Majority for Club Germania

1,145

### HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

Another stage has been reached in the tournament at the Hongkong Chess Club, the winner of which has the right of challenging the present champion. In the penultimate round Reynolds beat Chase by 2 to nil, with one draw; and De Souza beat E. F. Moses by 2 to 1. The two winners accordingly meet in the final.—A Gambit tournament has been started, the openings selected being the Evans and Danish Gambits, and the white player in each game having his choice of the two. The section for players of the 1st class has received six entries.—This afternoon at 5 o'clock there will be an exhibition of simultaneous play, when one of the local amateurs will attempt to play all comers, up to the number of 10.

At Singapore Mr. MacLaren gave notice that at the meeting of the Municipal Commissioners on the 14th inst. he would move:—"That the Government be approached with a view to the appointment of a Bacteriologist in Singapore at the joint expense of the Government and Municipality and the advisability of associating a Pasteur Institute with the new appointment be considered."



## HONGKONG.

The bodies of two unknown Chinese were admitted to the public mortuary on the 21st inst. Both had died of cholera.

Capt. J. H. Underwood, H.K.V.C., has been granted leave of absence to the 20th December. Mr. S. R. Moore has been appointing Deputy Registrar of the Land Court.

Mrs. Rizal, widow of Dr. Rizal, the well-known Filipino martyr, died at 87, Praya East on the 14th inst. after an illness lasting eighteen months. The body will be interred in Happy Valley on the 15th inst., the funeral passing the monument at 8.30.

The Clerk of Councils informs us that in deference to the views of the Unofficial Members and in order to allow those interested in the new Building Ordinance time to acquaint themselves with it, it has been decided to postpone the consideration of the Bill for a month.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has received an intimation by telegraph from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies that instructions regarding the Coronation of His Majesty the King will be forwarded in due course.

A team of twenty officers and non-commissioned officers and men of the Army shot against a similar number of officers and men of the Navy on the Kowloon range on the 18th inst., the distances being 200, 500, and 600 yards. The result was a win for the Navy team by 197 points.

A telegram was received from Canton on the 14th inst. stating that Mr. Fritz A. Bröckelmann, of the firm of Messrs. Reuter, Bröckelmann & Co., merchants, had died at 1.30 p.m. Choleraic symptoms were present. Mr. Bröckelmann only returned to Canton from Hongkong on the 13th inst.

A large party of friends boarded the P. & O. s.s. *Ballaarat* on the 15th inst. to bid good-bye to Police Inspector McDonald and Police Sergeants Cameron, Angus, and McKay, who are going home on nine months' leave of absence. Inspector McDonald, who is accompanied by his wife and two children, was also visited by a great number of Chinese admirers from Yau-mati, who let off crackers, beat gongs, and gave other noisy tokens of good-will.

"Spectator" writes to us suggesting that, as the Parsee C.C. can now for the first time boast of a team sufficiently strong to win matches against many of the clubs playing on the Wongneicheong ground, a highly interesting all-day match might be arranged, Parsees v. all-comers (made up from the R.A., R.E., Tumar, Craigengower, Police, Lusitano and other clubs). Our correspondent also suggests that in view of a China team not being able to visit Singapore as was proposed, the H.K.C.C. might arrange a match v. the Wongneicheong clubs combined, eleven a-side.

On the 16th inst., between 10.45 and 11.30 a.m., Colour-Sergeant Glazebrook, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was robbed of \$75 in cash and a silver nugget worth \$20 by a thief who gained entry through the window in the colour-sergeant's bunk; a pane of glass in the window had been smashed and the bolt afterwards slipped. The money and the nugget were contained in an ordinary box or trunk, the lock of which was forced. An Indian sentry says that he saw an European soldier leave the room by means of the window, but the night was dark, and he could not swear to the man. The case was reported to the police, but no arrests have been made, and it is not likely in the circumstances that any will be effected.

The twin-screw dredger *Canton River*, which was sunk in the Harbour in the November typhoon of 1900, and finally raised in July of last year, was exposed to sale by public auction on the 14th inst. in the sale rooms of Messrs. Hughes & Hough. Bidding was started at \$50,000 and rapidly rose to \$84,000, this figure being offered by Mr. W. S. Bailey, shipbuilder; but she was bought in for \$84,500 by the Commercial Assurance Co., Ltd. Mr. E. Jones Hughes was the auctioneer. The *Canton River* was built in 1897 by Messrs. Fleming & Ferguson of Paisley, and was sent out from the Clyde to the order of Messrs. Punchard, Lowther & Co., the contractors for the Naval Yard extension. She cost £45,000 and was fully insured.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week were 226 non-Chinese and 131 Chinese to the former, and 78 non-Chinese and 2,927 Chinese to the latter institution.

During the ending of 15th instweek the cases of communicable disease notified in the Colony were:—Plague 1 (Chinese), fatal; cholera, 12 (6 in Victoria, 6 on the s.s. *Riojun Maru*), with 9 deaths, the sufferers being 4 Japanese and 8 Chinese—one case only choleraic diarrhoea; diphtheria 1 (Portuguese); enteric fever 1 (European, contracted in Canton); small-pox 4 (Chinese) all fatal.

We learn that the question of rendering the Victoria Gap tram station less open to the elements has already received consideration at the hands of the General Managers and Consulting Committee of the Tramway Co., who have requested their architects to prepare plans and estimates. The difficulty hitherto has been to design a structure that will not obstruct the view of the engine-driver or be carried away in the first typhoon. Our numerous correspondents will doubtless receive this news with pleasure.

There was a very small attendance at the meeting convened by the Hongkong Jockey Club on the 15th inst. in the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken for the supply of Australian subscription walters for next year's Races. Those present were Messrs T. F. Hough, G. C. C. Master, H. P. White, F. H. Hohnke, J. Meyer, and T. S. Forrest. After some discussion, it was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Master, seconded by Mr. White, that, as Mr. Hough is about to visit Australia, he be asked to telegraph his recommendation and the cost of walter griffins to subscribers on as early a date as he conveniently can.

H.M.S. *Rosario* arrived from Weihaiwei on the 18th inst.

The German cruiser *Hertha* left on the 18th inst. for Shanghai.

H.M.S. *Albion* left for Japan early on the 21st inst.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

H. E. Sir Henry A. Blake had an audience of His Majesty at Marlborough House on the 12th ult.

Mr. Reginald Tower, H.B.M. Minister at Bangkok, hopes to start for home about the end of the month on special leave of absence. He will be away only for a few months.

The *Bangkok Times* of the 6th inst. says:—"The gunboat *Ran Ruk* has been sent to Patani, where, it is said, there has been some disturbance." Part of the sequel to this we know from our Singapore telegram of the 12th inst.

The following Reuter's telegram, dated London, 10th March, was not transmitted to Hongkong, though it was to Bangkok:—"There is a dispute about land within the French concession at Tientsin. The French have stopped the American Missions from building therein, and have posted policemen. The American Consul has hoisted United States flags on the buildings, and has referred the matter to the Minister at Peking." It is curious that no information with regard to this has reached us from the North.

The *P. & T. Times* of the 8th inst. says:—"We understand that the contention between the T. P. G. and the Customs about the collection of the revenue under transit passes has been settled by a compromise. The Provisional Government is to continue to collect this revenue at its barriers, but is to hand over to the Maritime Customs a sum of Tls. 7,000 per mensem. This decision will doubtless postpone for a period the question of the adoption of the Chinkiang Rules for Tientsin."

The Anglo-Japanese Alliance was celebrated at Nagasaki on the 8th inst. with great success. There were present over one thousand persons, including, it is said, Americans, English, Chinese, Germans, French and even Russians. Among the speakers were the British Acting Consul, who delivered an address in Japanese, and the Chinese Consul, who read a congratulatory address. The city was *en fête*, all the houses displaying flags. According to the Japanese papers, the Russian Consul even sent a representative to take part in the festivities.

The new Japanese battleship *Mikasa* has sailed for Japan.

A Newchwang telegram of the 11th inst. states that the ice is rapidly breaking in the Liao river, and navigation will soon be resumed.

The *Militärwochenblatt* announces that the resignation of Lieut.-General von Lessel, who commanded the German Expeditionary Corps in the China campaign, has been accepted, and that he has been placed on the retired list with a pension.

Mr. F. C. Bishop, formerly manager of the Bank of China and Japan, Ltd., has accepted the appointment of Eastern Manager of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, a branch of which will shortly be opened in Manila. Mr. Bishop was to leave London for the Far East very shortly.

The agitation against the House Tax which has been carried on for some time past by the foreign residents of Yokohama and Kobe, who objected to its imposition on their property on the ground that it was in opposition to the treaties, has been so far successful that the Japanese Government has now agreed to submit the question of the House Tax to arbitration, and the foreign representatives have been informed to this effect.

The *Asahi* says that the Japanese Imperial Court is busily getting together the valuable articles to be presented to King Edward VII. on the occasion of his coronation, by the Emperor of Japan. Among these is a pair of silver flower vases beautifully inlaid with gold. They have been made by about thirty well-known artists, and were completed quite recently after five years' work. These presents will be taken to England by Prince Komatsu, who will leave for London next month.

Telegrams in Manila and other papers would make it appear as if Naval Instructor R. P. Hobson, the hero of the *Merrimac* incident at Santiago, had been retired ignominiously. This was not at all the case. President Roosevelt's reason for the retirement was the trouble which has afflicted Mr. Hobson's eyes since 1900. This was contracted, it is said, when Mr. Hobson was on duty in repairing warships at Hongkong. The President concludes his recommendation thus:—"In consideration of the foregoing, but especially of the gallant service rendered by Mr. Hobson in the sinking of the *Merrimac* in the harbour of Santiago, during the recent war with Spain, I recommend the enactment of a suitable measure of retirement."

A New York despatch, dated 21st February, says:—"Mr. Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister to the United States, and Mr. James D. Phelan, former Mayor of San Francisco, had an exciting colloquy on the subject of Chinese exclusion in the corridor of an up-town hotel to-day. Mr. Phelan was one of a delegation that visited Washington to urge the re-enactment of the Exclusion Act, and holds pronounced views on the subject. He and the Minister met by chance and, after renewing recollections of a former meeting at the Bohemian Club in San Francisco, expressed their views in tones that attracted a crowd. They quieted down before they parted, and the Minister, in conclusion, said: "You know about the subject, now that I have talked to you."

The following replies have been made by the Japanese Government to questions recently put in the House of Representatives:—1. The Government has taken measures necessary for restoring Manchuria to its former condition (before the troubles) and also to protect Japan's treaty rights in that region, together with the Governments of both China and Korea.—2. The Government has been and is always endeavouring to protect and promote the interests of Japan in China and Korea, and does not intend to depart from this policy in the future.—3. At the time the Parliament of the Australian Commonwealth debated the Immigration Restriction Bills, the Government made a protest against the measures both to the British and the Commonwealth Governments; but unfortunately the Bill was carried and became law. The Government, however, sees that a way is still open for remedy, and negotiations are being carried on with the British Government.—4. The demand of the Japanese Government for an additional share in the indemnity as due to Japan still remains unsettled.



The uniform of the Shanghai Volunteers is being changed and khaki is giving place to serge. The *Union* says:—This change, which appears to have been an afterthought, cost the ratepayers some Tls. 3,000 in addition to the cost of the serge and the making-up, for the Council had to pay Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd., that amount for breaking the contract which they had made with the firm.

Mr. Robert Young, who has conducted the *Pinang Gazette* for the past twelve months, has resigned the editorship, but will continue a member of the directorate of the *Pinang Gazette Press*. Mr. David Brown undertakes the editorial duties pending the arrival of Mr. Cheaney Duncan, once of Hongkong and more recently of the *Shanghai New Press*, who has been appointed editor, and is expected there in a few weeks.

Mr. Susemihl, the Harbour Master of Tientsin, has circulated a chart showing the result of sounding of the river taken on Wednesday, the 26th February. From the plan it appears, says the *China Times*, that steamers of 225 feet between perpendiculars, stem and stern, can now swing in the lower part of Tientsin Reach. The river, it is stated, has widened a good deal, but some of the bends are very acute, and difficult for navigation by steamers without the assistance of a tug.

There would seem to be solid ground, says the *L. & C. Express*, for the dissatisfaction felt at the batta allowances made to the China Field force. The extra expenses incurred by the Staff Corps and other officers are by no means covered by the sums granted, and discontent is consequently caused. The treatment certainly does not bear comparison with the terms granted in the case of officers of some of the contingents of others of the Allied forces.

### COMMERCIAL.

#### TEA.

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

|          | 1900-1     | 1899-00    |
|----------|------------|------------|
|          | lbs.       | lbs.       |
| Yokohama | 23,740,957 | 25,044,480 |
| Kobe     | —          | —          |
| Hiogo    | —          | —          |
|          | 23,740,957 | 25,044,480 |

#### SILK.

#### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

|          | 1900-1901 | 1899-00 |
|----------|-----------|---------|
|          | bales.    | bales.  |
| Shanghai | 50,532    | 42,945  |
| Yokohama | 20,662    | 19,432  |
|          | 71,194    | 62,377  |

#### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

|          | 1900-1901 | 1899-00 |
|----------|-----------|---------|
|          | bales.    | bales.  |
| Shanghai | 11,692    | 5,672   |
| Yokohama | 36,233    | 21,069  |
|          | 50,925    | 26,741  |

#### CAMPOR.

HONGKONG, 21st March.—No arrivals.

#### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 21st March.—The position of the market and the prices are the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White | \$8.45 to \$8.50 pcl. |
| do. " 2, White          | 7.55 to 7.60 "        |
| Shekloong, No. 1, Brown | 6.05 to 6.10 "        |
| do. " 2, Brown          | 5.90 to 5.95 "        |
| Swatow, No. 1, White    | 8.40 to 8.45 "        |
| do. " 1, White          | 7.45 to 7.50 "        |
| Swatow, No. 1, Brown    | 6.00 to 6.05 "        |
| do. " 2, Brown          | 5.80 to 5.85 "        |
| Foochow Sugar Candy     | 13.05 to 13.10 "      |
| Shekloong "             | 10.15 to 10.20 "      |

#### RICE.

HONGKONG, 21st March.—Large demands having come forward, prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary                | \$2.80 to 2.85 |
| Round, Good quality             | 3.80 to 3.85   |
| " Long                          | 4.05 to 4.10   |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 | 2.90 to 2.95   |
| " Garden, " No. 1               | 3.80 to 3.85   |
| " White                         | 3.80 to 3.85   |
| " Fine Cargo                    | 4.10 to 4.15   |

### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 24th March.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 50 bales No. 6 at \$80, 50 bales No. 8 at \$85, 1,050 bales No. 10 at \$86 to \$90, 1,350 bales No. 12 at \$92.50 to \$95.50, 700 bales No. 16 at \$100 to \$108, 1,650 bales No. 20 at \$102 to \$118. White Shirtings: 500 pieces x 6 to \$470.

METAL.—Nail Rod Iron: 8,000 bundles 1/6 at \$460 to arrive. Quicksilver: 50 flasks at \$176.

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s | \$78.00 to \$118.00 |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24 | 114.00 to 120.00    |
| " 22 to 24            | 120.00 to 128.00    |
| " 28 to 32            | 136.00 to 142.00    |
| " 38 to 42            | 155.00 to 170.00    |

|                                           |              |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| COTTON PIECE GOODS—                       | per piece.   |
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.                     | 2.10 to 2.20 |
| 7 lbs.                                    | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| 8.4 lbs.                                  | 2.90 to 3.55 |
| 9 to 10 lbs.                              | 3.70 to 4.65 |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.              | 3.40 to 2.70 |
| 58 to 60 "                                | 3.15 to 4.10 |
| 64 to 66 "                                | 4.20 to 5.00 |
| Fine                                      | 5.20 to 7.40 |
| Book-folds                                | 4.30 to 6.50 |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards                   | 0.73 to 1.25 |
| T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.           | 1.70 to 1.90 |
| 7lbs. (32 " )                             | 2.00 to 2.30 |
| 6lbs. (32 " ), Mexs.                      | 2.00 to 2.15 |
| 7lbs. (32 " )                             | 2.80 to 3.30 |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)                    | 3.00 to 3.55 |
| Drills, English—40yds., 13 1/2 to 14 lbs. | 4.00 to 6.75 |

FANCY COTTONS—Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs } 1.60 to 3.65

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Brocades—Dyed         | — to —       |
| DAMASKS—              | per yard     |
| Chintzes—Assorted     | 0.18 to 0.20 |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in. | 0.24 to 0.50 |
| Velveteens—18 in.     | 0.22 to 0.30 |

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk  | 0.30 to 3.00 |
| WOOLLENS—                     | per yard     |
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops  | 0.65 to 2.00 |
| German                        | 1.25 to 3.00 |
| Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths | 1.25 to 3.00 |

|                                        |                |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.           | 6.50 to 8.50   |
| Assorted                               | 6.60 to 8.65   |
| Camlets—Assorted                       | 12.00 to 32.00 |
| Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } Assorted | 12.00 to 16.00 |
| Orleans—Plain                          | 8.00 to 9.50   |

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. | 4.00 to 9.00 |
| METALS—               | per picul    |

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Iron—Nail Rod                   | 4.50 to —      |
| Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.    | 4.45 to —      |
| Swedish Bar                     | 4.80 to —      |
| Small Round Rod                 | 4.85 to —      |
| Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.           | 5.90 to —      |
| Wire, 15/25                     | 8.50 to —      |
| Old Wire Rope                   | 2.30 to —      |
| Pig Non                         | 35.50 to 36.50 |
| Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop | 8.40 to —      |
| Australian                      | 8.30 to —      |

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| METALS—                      | per picul  |
| Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz. | 39.50 to — |
| Vivian's 14/20 oz.           | 39.50 to — |
| Elliot's 14/20 oz.           | 39.50 to — |
| Composition Nails            | 61.00 to — |
| Japan Copper, Slabs          | 39.00 to — |
| Tin                          | 71.00 to — |

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Tin-Plates     | 8.25 to —   |
| Steel 1/2 to 1 | 5.90 to —   |
| SUNDRIES—      | per picul   |
| Quicksilver    | 174.50 to — |

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Window Glass | 6.00 to — |
| Kerosene Oil | 2.10 to — |

### CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

MONDAY, 24th February.

### EXCHANGE.

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| ON LONDON.—                        |          |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 1/9 1/2  |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 1/9 1/2  |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight      | 1/9 1/2  |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight     | 1/9 1/2  |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight        | 1/9 1/2  |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 1/10 1/2 |
| ON PARIS.—                         |          |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 2.25     |
| Credits, 4 months' sight           | 2.28 1/2 |
| ON GERMANY.—                       |          |
| On demand                          | 1.82 1/2 |

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| ON NEW YORK.—                  |            |
| Bank Bills, on demand          | 43 1/2     |
| Credits, 60 days' sight        | 44 1/2     |
| ON BOMBAY.—                    |            |
| Telegraphic Transfer           | 133 1/2    |
| Bank, on demand                | 133 1/2    |
| ON CALCUTTA.—                  |            |
| Telegraphic Transfer           | 133 1/2    |
| Bank, on demand                | 133 1/2    |
| ON SHANGHAI.—                  |            |
| Bank, at sight                 | 73 1/2     |
| Private, 30 days' sight        | 74         |
| ON YOKOHAMA.—                  |            |
| On demand                      | 13 1/2     |
| ON MANILA.—                    |            |
| On demand                      | 2 p.c. pm. |
| ON SINGAPORE.—                 |            |
| On demand                      | 1          |
| ON BATAVIA.—                   |            |
| On demand                      | 1/8 1/2    |
| ON HAIPHONG.—                  |            |
| On demand                      | 1 1/2      |
| ON SAIGON.—                    |            |
| On demand                      | 1 p.c. pm. |
| ON BANGKOK.—On demand          | 60 1/2     |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate | 11.13      |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael  | 57.50      |
| BAR SILVER per oz.             | 24 1/2     |

### SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 21st March.—There has been no improvement in our market during the past week, and quotations for many of the principal stocks again show a declining tendency.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai close with a nominal quotation of \$590, but there is little doubt that shares can be obtained under this rate. London is unchanged at £63. Nationals are quiet at \$26.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue in request, and \$380 is now offered. China Traders have declined to \$53 sellers. Yangtszes have been booked at \$135. Cantons are wanted at \$160.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs continue on offer at \$355, and Chinas are obtainable at \$83.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are easier with sales and some sellers at \$38. Indo-Chinas are quiet at \$138. China Manilas have been booked at from \$30 to \$35, closing with buyers at \$32 1/2. Douglases can be placed at \$40. Star Ferries have sold and are still obtainable at \$24 (old) and \$8 1/2 (new). Shell Transports continue on offer at \$2.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have again receded, and shares are now obtainable at \$130. Luzons are unaltered at \$30 sellers.

MINING.—Panjoms are procurable at \$4 1/2. Charbonnages are quoted at \$525 with probable buyers. Jebebus unchanged at \$3 1/2 sellers. Raubs wanted at \$9.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold at \$262 1/2 and \$260. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been booked at \$93 cum dividend, and are now obtainable at \$90 ex the final dividend of \$2 1/2 for 1901 paid on the 20th instant. New Amoy Docks can still be placed at \$30.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold to a fair extent at \$175, and a few more shares are to be had at the rate. West Points are a shade lower at \$58 with sellers. Humphreys Estates are procurable at \$12 1/2. Hongkong Hotels are weak at \$132 sellers, and Oriente Hotels at \$50 sellers.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have sold at \$14 and are wanted. Ewos are quiet at Tls. 40.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cement have sold and are wanted at \$21. Watsons art in the market at \$15. Electrics (old) are enquired for at \$13 1/2. Electrics (new) have sold at \$6. Ropes continue on offer at \$150. Ices are in demand still at \$220, and Tramways at \$330. United Asbestos (founders) are now quoted \$250 with buyers. China Providents have sold and are in request at \$9 1/2. Watkins are wanted at \$8. Powells have sold at \$9 and further shares are obtainable.

MEMOS.—China and Manila Steamship Co., Ltd., ordinary annual meeting to-morrow, the 22nd instant. Watkins, Ltd., ordinary annual meeting on the 27th instant. China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., and Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meetings on the 27th instant.



Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                                   | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.                               |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Banks—</b>                              |          |                                           |
| Hongkong & S'hai...                        | \$125    | { \$590, sellers<br>{ L'don, £63.         |
| China & Japan, ordy.                       | £4       | £1.                                       |
| Do. deferred                               | £1       | nominal.                                  |
| Natl. Bank of China                        |          |                                           |
| A. Shares                                  | £8       | \$26.                                     |
| B. Shares                                  | £8       | \$26.                                     |
| Foun. Shares                               | £1       | \$10, sellers                             |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A....                   | £1       | \$1, buyers                               |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.                      | \$10     | \$21, buyers                              |
| China-Borneo Co., Ltd.                     | \$15     | \$28, sellers                             |
| China Light & Power }<br>Co., Ltd. ....    | \$20     | \$20, nominal                             |
| China Prov. L. & M....                     | \$10     | \$94, buyers                              |
| China Sugar                                | \$100    | \$130, sellers                            |
| <b>Cigar Companies—</b>                    |          |                                           |
| Alhambra Limited...                        | \$500    | \$500, nominal.                           |
| Philippine Tobacco }<br>Invest. Co., Ltd.) | \$50     | \$50, sellers                             |
| <b>Cotton Mills—</b>                       |          |                                           |
| Ewo                                        | Tls. 100 | Tls. 40.                                  |
| International                              | Tls. 100 | Tls. 25.                                  |
| Laou Kung Mow                              | Tls. 100 | Tls. 40.                                  |
| Soychee                                    | Tls. 500 | Tls. 150.                                 |
| Hongkong                                   | \$100    | \$14, sales & buyers                      |
| Dairy Farm                                 | \$8      | \$12, buyers                              |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo...                      | \$25     | \$41.                                     |
| Green Island Cement...                     | \$10     | \$21, buyers                              |
| H. & C. Bakery                             | \$30     | \$40, ex dev.,                            |
| Hongkong & C. Gas                          | £10      | \$140, buyers                             |
| Hongkong Electric }                        | \$10     | \$181, buyers                             |
| H. H. L. Tramways ...                      | \$100    | \$6, sales                                |
| Hk. Steam Water }                          | \$100    | \$330, buyers                             |
| boat Co., Ltd. ....                        | \$5      | \$8.                                      |
| Hongkong Hotel                             | \$50     | \$132, sellers                            |
| Hongkong Ice                               | \$25     | \$220, buyers                             |
| H. & K. Wharf & G....                      | \$50     | \$90, ex div., sellers                    |
| Hongkong Rope                              | \$50     | \$150, sellers                            |
| H. & W. Dock                               | \$50     | \$260.                                    |
| <b>Insurance—</b>                          |          |                                           |
| Canton                                     | \$50     | \$160, buyers                             |
| China Fire                                 | \$20     | \$83, sellers                             |
| China Traders'                             | \$25     | \$53, sellers                             |
| Hongkong Fire                              | \$50     | \$355, sellers                            |
| North China                                | £25      | Tls. 190, buyers                          |
| Straits                                    | \$20     | nominal.                                  |
| Union                                      | \$50     | \$380, buyers                             |
| Yangtze                                    | \$60     | \$135, sales                              |
| <b>Land and Building—</b>                  |          |                                           |
| Hongkong Land Inv.                         | \$100    | \$175, sellers                            |
| Humphreys Estate...                        | \$10     | \$124, sellers                            |
| Kowloon Land & B.                          | \$30     | \$30.                                     |
| West Point Building                        | \$50     | \$58, sellers                             |
| Luzon Sugar                                | \$100    | \$30, sellers                             |
| Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.                   | \$50     | \$35, sellers.                            |
| <b>Mining—</b>                             |          |                                           |
| Charbonnages                               | Fcs. 250 | \$525.                                    |
| Jelebu                                     | \$5      | \$34, sellers                             |
| Queen's Mines, Ltd....                     | 25c.     | 4 cents.                                  |
| Oliviers Mines, A....                      | \$5      | nominal.                                  |
| Do. B....                                  | \$4      | nominal.                                  |
| Punjom                                     | \$10     | \$44, sellers                             |
| Do. Perference...                          | \$1      | \$125, sellers                            |
| Raubs                                      | 18       | \$9, buyers                               |
| New Amoy Dock                              | \$64     | \$30, buyers                              |
| Oriente Hotel, Manila                      | \$50     | \$50, sellers                             |
| Powell, Ltd.                               | \$10     | \$9, sales & sellers                      |
| Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.                   | \$50     | \$50, nominal                             |
| <b>Steamship Coys.—</b>                    |          |                                           |
| China and Manila                           | \$50     | { \$32, buyers<br>{ nominal.              |
| China Mutual Pref.                         | £10      | £10. 11s., buyers                         |
| Do. Ordinary                               | £7.10    | £7. 10s., sellers                         |
| Do. Bonus                                  | £5       | £5, sellers                               |
| Douglas Steamship                          | \$50     | \$40, buyers                              |
| H., Canton and M....                       | \$15     | \$38.                                     |
| Indo-China S. N. ....                      | £10      | \$139.                                    |
| Shell Transportand }<br>Trading Co. ....   | £1       | £2., sellers                              |
| Star Ferry                                 | \$10     | { \$24, sales & sells.<br>{ \$84, sellers |
| Tebrau Planting Co....                     | \$5      | \$1.                                      |
| United Abestos                             | \$4      | \$10, sellers                             |
| Do.                                        | \$10     | \$250, buyers                             |
| Universal Trading                          | \$5      | \$20, sellers                             |
| Co., Ltd.                                  |          |                                           |
| Watkins Ltd.                               | \$10     | \$8, buyers                               |
| Watson & Co., A. S....                     | \$10     | \$15, sellers                             |

VERNON SMYTH, &amp; Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 12th March (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). A fair amount of business has been put through during the week at steady rates. INSURANCE.—Marine. Yangtszes sold at \$135 and Unions at \$360; other stocks are quiet, though North Chinas are wanted. SHIPPING.—

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co. Cash rate, after falling to Tls. 99, has improved to 101-101.50; settlements were made for April at 102, May 103, June 105-104, July 105-106, August 106, September 107-108-107; forward shares are in some demand. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd. Cash shares were placed at Tls. 9.60, 9.70, 9.60; settlement for 31st inst. took place at 9.75 and for June at 9.80; shares are offering. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd. Shares changed hands at Tls. 262.50, 261.60, 260 and for 262.50 for cash, market closing with sellers at last quotation. Settlements were made for April 265-267.50, May 267.50, June 272.50, July 275 and September 280. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were settled at Tls. 300 for 31st inst. LANDS are quiet. INDUSTRIAL.—Laou Kung Mow Cotton Mill shares were placed at Tls. 39-40 cash. Flour Mills at Tls. 47.50, at which rate shares are offering. Pulp and Paper Mills at Tls. 110 for April and 31st inst. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—Taku Tug Boat shares were taken at Tls. 190 cash. Cargo B. at shares changed hands at Tls. 137.50 (cum div.) and 130 (ex div.). MISCELLANEOUS.—Langkat Tobacco shares after realising 330 were let go at 325 cash. Settlements were made for 31st inst. at 330, April 335, May 340, June 345. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co. The directors' report and statement of accounts for year ending December 31st have been published for the meeting of shareholders convened for the 19th current. The balance at credit of working account for 1900 is Tls. 3,884.74, equal to 2.05 per cent. on the share capital, as against 6.82 per cent. in the previous year. From the balance brought to credit of profit and loss from 1899, a dividend at 6 per cent. was paid on March 21st, 1901, which, including the balance of Tls. 3,884.72 from working account, leaves a credit balance at profit and loss of Tls. 5,640, carried forward. Debenture Loan \$50,000, with exception of some Tls. 8,000 representing bonds not yet presented, has been paid out of current funds. An extraordinary general meeting is called for the same date, the purpose of which will be to consider a proposal for the winding up of the present company and the formation of a new company to be registered under the Limited Liability Act. Shares changed hands at Tls. 38.50 cash. Hall & Holtz shares sold at \$38, Moutries at \$62.50, Telephones at Tls. 61, Weeks and Co. at \$27.50, 28.00, 27.50 and Astor Hotels at \$255. DEBENTURES.—Municipal Land Investment 5 per cent. and Waterworks 5 per cent. changed hands at Tls. 93 and accrued interest.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—*Oriental* (str.), *Dardanus* (str.), *Nestor* (str.), *Antenor* (str.), *Canton* (str.), *Diomed* (str.), *Machaon* (str.).  
FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Achilles* (str.), *Calchas* (str.).  
FOR MARSEILLES.—*Oceanien* (str.), *Konigsberg* (str.).  
FOR BREMEN.—*Buynern* (str.).  
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Konigsberg* (str.), *Adria* (str.), *Saxonia* (str.), *Bamberg* (str.), *Segovia* (str.), *Armenia* (str.).  
FOR GENOA.—*Armenia* (str.).  
FOR TRIESTE.—*India* (str.).  
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Braemar* (str.), *Victoria* (str.), *Iyo Maru* (str.), *Yangtze* (str.), *Kinshui Maru* (str.).  
FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of China* (str.), *Tartar* (str.).  
FOR NEW YORK.—*Hudson* (str.), *Aragonia* (str.).  
FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—*Indravelli* (str.).  
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Taiyuan* (str.), *Chingtu* (str.), *Kumano Maru* (str.), *Airlie* (str.).  
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Kagoshima Maru* (str.).  
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Suisang* (str.).  
FOR SINGAPORE AND BOMBAY.—*Nankin* (str.).

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## ARRIVALS.

March—  
15, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.  
15, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.  
15, Hongbee, British str., from Penang.  
15, Isla de Cuba, U.S. gunboat, from Canton.  
15, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.  
15, Kowloon, German str., from Manila.  
15, Maidaura Maru, Jap. str., from Amoy.  
15, Malta, British str., from London.  
15, Pakshan, British str., from Bangkok.  
15, Progress, German str., from Tourane.  
15, Saphir, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.  
15, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.

16, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.  
16, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Soanghai.  
16, Eastern, British str., from Kobe.  
16, Emma Luyken, German str., from Iloilo.  
16, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.  
16, Longmoon, German str., from Shanghai.  
16, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.  
16, New York, U.S. flagship, from Cavite.  
16, Pakling, British str., from Shanghai.  
16, Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.  
16, Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.  
16, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.  
16, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
16, Ulysses, British str., from Shanghai.  
17, Babelsberg, German str., from Saigon.  
17, Braemar, British str., from Moji.  
17, Elg, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.  
17, Loyal, German str., from Sourabaya.  
17, Maristow, British str., from New York.  
17, Nankin, British str., from London.  
17, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Hoihow.  
17, Simongan, Dutch str., from Samarang.  
17, Yedo Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.  
17, Kiautschou, German str., from Yokohama.  
18, Apenrade, German str., from Saigon.  
18, Empress of China, Brit. str., from V. couver.  
18, Flintshire, British str., from London.  
18, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.  
18, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.  
18, Perla, British str., from Manila.  
18, Tetartos, German str., from Samarang.  
18, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.  
19, Ailsa Craig, British str., from Moji.  
19, Changchow, British str., from Swatow.  
19, Elita Nossack, Ger. str., from Bangkok.  
19, Fukui Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.  
19, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.  
19, India, Austrian str., from Bombay.  
19, Keongwai, German str., from Swatow.  
19, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.  
19, Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.  
19, Prometheus, British str., from Liverpool.  
19, Rosario, British sloop, from Weihaiwei.  
19, Benclutha, American str., from Canton.  
19, Kiangsi, Chinese str., from Canton.  
19, Loongmoo, German str., from Canton.  
19, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.  
19, Tydens, British str., from Amoy.  
20, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.  
20, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.  
20, Mathilde, German str., from Tsingtau.  
20, Mongkut, German str., from Bangkok.  
20, Penarth, British str., from Wellington.  
20, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.  
20, Yangtze, British str., from Liverpool.  
21, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.  
21, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.  
21, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.  
21, Kiukiang, British str., from Canton.  
21, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.  
21, Mogul, German str., from Glasgow.  
21, Pelayo, British str., from Singapore.  
21, Skarpsno, Norw. str., from Bangkok.  
21, Whampoa, British str., from Swatow.

## March—

## DEPARTURES.

15, Ballarat, British str., for Europe.  
15, Freiburg, German str., for Shanghai.  
15, Hopsang, British str., for Hongay.  
15, Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.  
15, Kiangsi, British str., for Canton.  
15, Kiukiang, British str., for Canton.  
15, M. Rickmers, German str., for Saigon.  
15, P. C. C. Kiao, German str., for Bangkok.  
15, Quarta, German str., for Bangkok.  
15, Strathgyle, British str., for Portland, Or.  
15, Trieste, Austrian str., for Trieste.  
15, Trym, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.  
15, Victoria, American str., for Tacoma.  
16, Airlie, British str., for Moji.  
16, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
16, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.  
16, Hansa, German str., for Saigon.  
16, Malta, British str., for Shanghai.  
16, Ness, British str., for Moji.  
16, Taiyuan, British str., for Manila.  
16, Elsa, German str., for Hongay.  
16, Saphir, Norwegian str., for Nagasaki.  
17, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.  
17, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.  
17, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.  
17, Kowloon, German str., for Nagasaki.  
17, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.  
17, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.  
18, Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Swatow.  
18, Bombay, British str., for London.  
18, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.  
18, Hertha, German cruiser, for Shanghai.



18, Hertha, British str., for Singapore.  
 18, Hongbee, British str., for Amoy.  
 18, J. Diederichsen, German str., for Saigon.  
 18, Kansu, British str., for Shanghai.  
 18, Mexican Prince, Brit. str., for Singapore.  
 18, Maristow, British str., for Shanghai.  
 18, Progress, German str., for Touron.  
 18, Ulysses, British str., for London.  
 19, Andalusia, German str., for Saigon.  
 19, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Pakhoi.  
 19, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.  
 19, Kiantschow, German str., for Europe.  
 19, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.  
 19, Maizuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.  
 19, Nankin, British str., for Shanghai.  
 19, Perla, British str., for Manila.  
 19, Taintan, German str., for Hoihow.  
 20, Benclutha, American str., for Chinkiang.  
 20, Deuterios, German str., for Saigon.  
 20, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.  
 20, Kiangsi, Chinese str., for Moji.  
 20, Loongmoon, German str., for Suanghai.  
 20, Nanshan, British str., for Swatow.  
 20, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Hoihow.  
 20, Riojun Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.  
 20, Thea, German str., for Chefoo.  
 20, Tydus, British str., for London.  
 20, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.  
 21, Albion, British battleship, for Japan.  
 21, Ailsa Craig, British str., for Moji.  
 21, Changchow, British str., for Tientsin.  
 21, Eastern, British str., for Australia.  
 21, Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Elg, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.  
 21, FHaimun, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.  
 21, India, Austrian str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.  
 21, Mathilde, German str., for Canton.  
 21, Pakling, British str., for Saigon.  
 21, Penarth, British str., for Kiantschow.  
 21, Prometheus, British str., for Shanghai.

## PASSENGERS LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Taiyuan*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie, Mrs. S. K. Rocks, Messrs. Nuttal, Skinner, Geil, Finlay, Michael, Morris, and Shannon.  
 Per *Bombay*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Messrs. Clarke, McKay and Buch; for London, Mr. Wilson; from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Wintour, Messrs. Bastien, Hudson, Sutherland, Brindle and A. K. Church; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Lamurg and child, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk and child and Mr. De Souza.  
 Per *Ballaarat*, from Shanghai, for London, Mr. E. C. H. Moule; from Yokohama, for Bombay, Mr. Isaac Kato; for London, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Pallant and two children.  
 Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mr. T. Cross.  
 Per *Suisang*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. W. E. Brady.  
 Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Deninck and Bollard and son.  
 Per *Eastern*, from Kobe, Miss E. G. Long and Capt. Davis.  
 Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mrs. G. A. Zeller, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. R. Platt, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Baford, Miss Rutherford, Dr. Mittendorf, Messrs. Clontier, H. J. de Costa, S. Alto'di, and G. Armstrong.  
 Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Rev. and Mrs. Torry, Misses Davis and Mead, Rev. Gibson, Messrs. Mackinnon and Mansfield.  
 Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dallas, Mr. and Mrs. Billanit, Mr. and Mrs. Montague, Misses Marie Arnold, Eva Clark, Nellie Curtis, Isabel Nerron, Daisy Cuthbert, Jessie Campbell, Ella Featherstone and Carleton, Messrs. Harold Godwin, Tneford, Percival Knight, R. Pitey, D. Munro, Phil Charlton, Ingles, Shrout and Williams.  
 Per *Malta*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. Warbarton; from Bombay, Misses M. P. and P. Bridges, S. Bland, Newell, F. Oatway, Messrs. H. Camraddin, S. B. Kharas and Dott; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Layard and child, Mr. and Mrs. Sallast, Mr. and Mrs. MacLaren, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Dempster, Mr. and Misses Clothier (2), Misses MacLeod (2), Miss Fowler, Lord Helmsley, Lieut. S. S. Pratt, Capt. J. F. Leal, Messrs. L. W. Bristowe, Christie, F. E. Cox, Collin, Nursaw, C. S. Waters, A. Dowson, J. Martin, J. K. Tweed, Meserve, F. H. and W. E. Cros; from Penang, Mr. Cockcroft; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs.

Cameron, Miss Woods, and Mr. J. A. Begbie; for Shanghai, from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Rex and two children, Mr. Nessim; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong and infants, Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch, Mr. and Mrs. Carnaby and two children, Miss L. Kent, Lieut. Hillman, Dr. E. Stapleton, Messrs. J. T. Pearson, Parr, Iokeymay and Chikadzumy; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. P. B. C. Kinch; for Yokohama, from Singapore, Mr. L. Peck.

Per *Nankin*, from Singapore, for Yokohama, Rev. Burke.

Per *American Mail*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. A. Conroy, Mrs. A. Forrest, Mrs. M. Austin, Misses E. Russell, E. Clawson and N. Compton, Capt. A. P. Blockson, U.S.A., Miss M. R. Ferguson, Messrs. E. M. Ferguson, W. S. Ferguson, Atherton Macondray, A. B. Lawson, L. T. Grant, A. Brayer, Geo. Grenville, L. P. Clawson, and J. A. Valentine.

Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Mr. Roese.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Gingantau and two children and Capt. Bathurst.

Per *Flintshire*, from London, &c., for Yokohama, Mrs. Miss and Master G. Nevelli.

Per *Perla*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Drayton Messrs. E. Schenider, H. Franket, H. E. McCarty and C. S. Buttoreck.

Per *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. T. Hunt, Messrs. W. E. Taylor, F. C. Stratford, W. D. Buxton and J. B. Dexter; from Victoria, Lieut. E. C. Hardy, R.N.; from Yokohama, Paymaster O. Leary, U.S.N., Asst. Paymaster T. D. Harris, U.S.N., and Lieut. B. C. Decker, U.S.N.; from Kobe, Mr. H. Ryrie; from Shanghai, Mr. B. Corf.

Per *Nanchang*, from Tientsin, Mr. and Mrs. Adson and Mr. Huxham.

Per *Mausang*, from Sandakan, Miss Alister.

Per *Mathilde*, from Tsingtau, Mr. H. von Marlowsky.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Miss Kennedy.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Col. F. L. and Mrs. Denny, Comdr. and Mrs. Bartlet, Mrs. Davis and child, Mrs. Ladd, Mrs. M. S. Hubbard, Mr. and Mrs. A. Croonse, Mrs. Aenla, Mr. and Mrs. Jose Pozas, Misses Beach, Dias, Wood, Ida Clifford, and Dolores Lingian, Capt. Moore, Messrs. M. de Ponungrae, L. Mooser, Flederic Seghezze, Alex. J. Gohi, Charles Steward, P. Dadey, F. H. Doolittle, M. Le Lonain, James Coyne, J. J. Keegan, H. F. Rosencrantz, Blist, Aenlan, E. W. Weaver, L. R. Jordan, C. R. Oniun, Domesiano Tisoms, S. Siseus, Victor Tison, Patra Cunnanon, Geo. Parker, S. Arida, and K. Malsushita.

Per *Japan*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Cresswell and child, Lieutenants C. E. L. Thomas, and J. D. Edwards, 2nd Lieut. J. H. Rattan, Sub-Lieut. H. K. Stokes, Midshipmen J. C. Wahab, J. J. C. Ridley, S. F. Russell, G. H. Kellett, F. J. O. Lamb, E. T. R. Chambers and L. V. Wells, Naval Cadets H. D. Germain, C. E. Brooke, G. E. Venning, H. P. Boxer, J. R. Maitland and Makgill Crichton, Messrs. Goldsmith, and A. R. G. Beal; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Currey, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, Lady Pearson, Misses Gore and Walford, Messrs. E. W. Polling, D. A. Bildt, Kennedy, R. Senior, W. F. and L. V. Mitchell; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston and child, and Miss Gilmour.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mrs. E. R. Greene, Mrs. and Miss A. Cristeson, Mrs. S. Hubbard, Mrs. E. Auman, Mrs. C. C. Ogden, Mr. and Mrs. Allen M. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. Cronise, Mr. and Mrs. Pope, Miss E. Carman, Messrs. J. P. Somville, D. S. Stone, P. Dudley, F. H. Doolittle, H. L. Van Winkle, J. W. Settell, E. G. Bellairs, and E. Gonzalez.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, for Kobe and Yokohama, Mrs. Purvis, Mrs. M. Eckert, Misses Purvis, Amalie Eckert, Anne Eckert, E. Eckert, Rhodes, Prof. H. Muraoka, Dr. K. Kobayashi, Messrs. W. E. Ellis, C. F. Lowe, Rhodes, A. Smith, R. M. Greig, K. Midzuno, O. Nagayama, S. Iwanaga.

Per *Ballaarat*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. James Sellar; for Colombo, Mr. J. Sutherland; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. King, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Crick and two children, Inspector and Mrs. McDonald and two children, Messrs. McGill, R.N., Johnson, R.N., S. G. Andrews, K. Wilson, A. J. De Souza, M. P.

Hart, Sergt. Cameron, Lance-Sergt. Angus and Lance-Sergt. McKay; from Shanghai, for London, Mr. E. C. B. Moule; from Yokohama, for Bombay, Mr. Isaac Kato; for London, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Pallant and two children.

Per *Malta*, for Shanghai, from Hongkong, Mrs. H. J. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hibberdine, Capt. Rental, Lieut. Wienke, Miss Henderson, Messrs. F. von Bredow, von Weber, S. D. Musso, W. Moxon, S. N. Karanjia, F. S. Mason, G. W. Bonapart Wyse, L. B. Wyse, L. W. Bristowe, J. K. Tweed and W. E. Brady; from Singapore, Mr. P. B. C. and Mrs. Kinch and Mr. W. Wilkins; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Armstrong and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Carnaby and two children, Lieut. Hillman, Miss L. Kent, Messrs. J. T. Pearson and Parr; from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Rex and two children and Mr. Nissim; for Yokohama, from Singapore, Mr. Lewis Peck; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch.

Per *Bombay*, from Hongkong, for Port Said, Mr. Alex. Fillipini; from Shanghai, for Colombo, Mr. Sutherland; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Lanning and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kirk and infant and Mr. A. J. De Souza; from Yokohama, for London, Mr. K. Wilson.

Per *American Mail*, for Shanghai, Mrs. Caston, Mrs. J. B. Aleshire, Mme. Sarina Mrs. C. A. Willard, Mr. and Mrs. Cogill, Mrs. W. P. Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Dutton and Miss Dutton, Mrs. Hunter, Misses Rose Aquinaldo, Amie Tasma, Cameron, Ross, and M. and P. Bridges, Messrs. C. Michelau, Russell, Wandres, S. Antoldi, Caston, Ellis Kadoorie, Altro, P. R. Raymond, W. D. Braidwood, E. Brindle, and J. Grant; for Nagasaki, Lord Helmsley, Messrs. F. Baer and M. Nicholson; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Zahn, Messrs. R. E. Stallings, B. Cameron, C. C. Williams, Williams, F. Van Nuys, E. T. Cockroft, W. F. McLaughlin and C. W. Galloupe; for Honolulu, Mr. Stephen Smith; for San Francisco, &c., Rev. and Mrs. H. Forman, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. T. C. Peare, Mr. and Mrs. T. Steven, Mrs. and Miss Church, Mrs. E. S. Worthington, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Colley, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Spencer, Mrs. M. B. Buford, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. M. Earnshaw, Mrs. Peter Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. MacLaren, Capt. and Mrs. Platt, Mrs. M. Caceres, Dr. E. Stapleton, Misses B. and J. Abon, Messrs. C. and M. Louisson and Miss Louisson, Misses O. Thomas and A. A. Rutherford, Messrs. W. Davies, A. Gaffney, C. P. Fox, S. R. Grant, E. S. Meserve, J. E. Fox, G. H. Christie, W. E. du Gros, J. A. Begbie, H. E. Barber, L. J. Clayburgh, S. F. Joor, H. Robinson, C. C. Collin, A. S. Dott, F. H. du Gros, Eugene Ross, W. K. Mittendorf and T. C. Waters.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Mrs. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Dillon, Miss Rosenfelt, Messrs. E. P. Hudson, L. Clausier, A. I. Finlay, A. P. Blockson, S. Toribio, F. O. Jamerson, W. Spere, John Alen and F. S. Hoffmann.

Per *Kiatschow*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. van Heemstede Obelt and Mr. Max Fleischer; for Penang, Mr. and Mrs. A. Boning; for Colombo, Miss H. C. Mould and Mr. H. Ryrie; for Aden, Lieut. Gasmac; for Port Said, Vice-Consul and Mrs. E. H. Hobe; for Gibraltar, Gen. and Mrs. Silvano; for Genoa, Mrs. H. Schubart, H.E. (onselheiro and Lady Horta e Costa and son, Mrs. N. A. Siebs, Miss E. Siebs, Mr. and Mrs. O. von der Heyde and children, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Clark, Mrs. Lehmann, Messrs. H. Frankel and G. Ishizawa; for Southampton, Mr. E. T. Hodgkinson; for London, Mr. and Mrs. James Rock, Mrs. Geo. W. Playfair and daughter, Mrs. Percy Scott and child, Messrs. C. S. Geddes, Wm. Symonds, and E. S. Sargeant.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mrs. Ziller, Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Hirsch, Mrs. N. Ross, Mrs. J. Cristobay, Rev. Burke, Lieut. Decker, Misses Clothier, E. Clothier, Messrs. S. C. Clothier, Macondray, J. Kennedy, O. Batt, W. Van Buskirk, J. Brown, S. J. Grant, G. C. Granville, T. S. O'Leary, W. D. Buxton, J. B. Dexter, T. D. Harris, F. C. Stratford, J. S. Michael, G. Prinzel, M. Suarez, and H. Mon and Miss Izanstatel.

Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Concerned, at 14, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong. London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.